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B 875,914

The Regalia and Plate of Preston, Co. Lancaster.

The Maces, Mayor's Wand, Oar, and Sword,

The Tankard, Queen Anne Glass, Punch Bowl, Loving Cup, Ewer, and Hanap.

TRANSACTIONS

OF THE

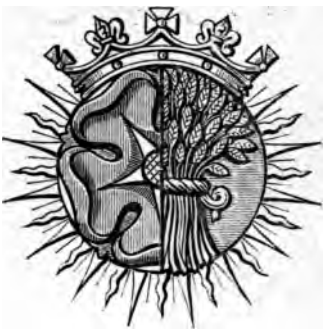
HISTORIC SOCIETY

OF

Lancashire and Cheshire.

FOR THE YEAR 1897.—VOLUME XLIX.

NEW SERIES.—VOLUME XIII.



LIVERPOOL:

PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY.

1898.

J. Clark
4-6-1923

The Authors of Papers are alone responsible for the facts and opinions in their several communications.

An Index of Archæological Papers published in 1896 (printed under the direction of the Congress of Archæological Societies in union with the Society of Antiquaries) is given at the end of this volume.

The present volume has been prepared for the press by R. D. RADCLIFFE, M.A., Ch. Ch. Oxford, F.S.A., Honorary Secretary and Editor.

421113

LIST OF SOCIETIES IN CORRESPONDENCE WITH THE HISTORIC SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

Society of Antiquaries of London.
Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.
Royal Historical and Archæological Society of Ireland.
Royal Archæological Institute, London.
Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-on-Tyne.
Kent Archæological Society.
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Sussex Archæological Society.
Chester Archæological Society.
Cumberland and Westmoreland Antiquarian Society.
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Shropshire Archæological Society.
Architectural and Archæological Society of Lincoln and Notts.
Manchester Literary Club.
Suffolk Archæological Institute.
New England Genealogical Society.

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COUNCIL AND OFFICERS, FOR THE YEAR 1898-9.

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THE RIGHT HON. THE EARL OF LATHOM.
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THE REV. THE RECTOR OF LIVERPOOL.
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JOHN PAUL RYLANDS, F.S.A.

Members of Council.

TO SERVE TO END OF 1898.

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HENRY PEET, F.S.A.
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TO SERVE TO END OF 1899.

E. W. COX.
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Officers of the Society since commencement.

Presidents.

1.	Right Hon. Francis, 1st Earl of Ellesmere, Lord-Lieut. of Lancashire	1848.
2.	Right Hon. Charles William, 3rd Earl of Sefton, Lord-Lieut. of Lancashire	1854.
3.	General the Hon. Sir Edward Cust, K.C.H., D.C.L.	1855.
4.	Right Hon. William Ewart Gladstone, M.P.	1863.
5.	Joseph Mayer, F.S.A., &c.	1866.
6.	Rev. Canon Hume, D.C.L., LL.D., &c.	1869.
7.	The Very Rev. J. S. Howson, D.D., Dean of Chester	1875.
8.	Thomas Glazebrook Rylands, F.S.A., &c.	1879.
9	Right Rev. The Lord Bishop of Oxford, F.S.A.	1885.
10.	RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF CHESTER, D.D.	1889.

Secretaries.

1848.	Rev. A. Hume. LL.D., and H. C. Pidgeon.	
1851.	Rev. A. Hume, LL.D., and Rev. Thomas Moore, M.A.	
1854.	Rev. A. Hume, LL.D.	
		Assistant Secretaries.
1855.	Rev. A. Hume, LL.D.	Thomas G. Wedgwood.
1856.	Rev. A. Hume, LL.D.	W. W. Rundell.
1857.	Rev. A. Hume, LL.D.	J. H. Genn.
1864.	Nicholas Waterhouse.	J. H. Genn.
1867.	David Buxton.	Charles Dyall.
1875.	David Buxton.	[Arthur Wakefield.]
1876.	David Buxton.	Eugenio Londini.
1877.	C. T. Gatty, F.S.A.	Eugenio Londini.
1882.	C. T. Gatty, F.S.A.	T. N. Morton.
1884.	E. M. Hance, LL.B. R. D. Radcliffe, M.A.	T. N. Morton.
1888.	R. D. Radcliffe, M.A., F.S.A.	T. N. Morton.
1892.	R. D. Radcliffe, M.A., F.S.A.	T. N. Morton. W. F. Irvine.
1898.	R. D. RADCLIFFE, M.A., F.S.A.	W. F. IRVINE. JAS. A. WAITE.

Treasurers.

1848.	Thomas Avison, F.S.A.
1860.	William Burke.
1867.	John G. Jacob.
1886.	H. D. Eshelby, F.S.A.
1898.	W. E. GREGSON.

	Librarians.	Curators.
1848.	Joseph Mayer, F.S.A.	Joseph Mayer, F.S.A.
1851.	Rev. Thomas Moore, M.A.	Joseph Mayer, F.S.A.
1859.	David Buxton.	A. C. Gibson, F.S.A.
1867.	Nicholas Waterhouse.	A. C. Gibson, F.S.A.
1869.	Nicholas Waterhouse.	H. Ecroyd Smith.
1871.	John R. Hughes.	H. Ecroyd Smith.
1875.	John R. Hughes.	J. Harris Gibson.
1876	C. T. Gatty, F.S.A.	J. Harris Gibson.
1877.	E. M. Hance, LL.B.	J. Harris Gibson.
1880.	*(Offices in abeyance.)*	
1885.	W. Thompson Watkin.	J. Harris Gibson.
1886.	W. Thompson Watkin.	W. Forshaw Wilson.
1889.	George T. Shaw.	W. C. Ashby Pritt.
1889.	G. T. SHAW.	CHARLES POTTER,

N.B.—It is requested that notice be given to the Secretary of any errors, change of address, or death.

LIST OF MEMBERS,

Corrected to 31st December, 1898.

The names of Life Members are printed in SMALL CAPITALS, and those of Resident Members have an asterisk attached.

DATE OF ELECTION.

1889. April 4 *Abraham, Miss E. C. Riverham, Grassendale Park, Liverpool.

1889. Jan. 10 *Abraham, Thomas Fell. 53 Bidston road, Birkenhead.

1877. Feb. 22 Adshead, George Haward. Fern Villas, 100 Bolton road, Pendleton, Manchester.

1895. Nov. 7 *Allwood, T. Massey. Orrell village, Litherland.

1889. Jan. 10 *Alsop, J. W., B.A. 14 Castle street, Liverpool.

1889. Feb. 21 Arkle, Richard Naylor, M.A. 13 Old square, Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.

1895. Feb. 7 Ashworth, Alfred. Tabley Grange, Knutsford.

1888. Mar. 22 *Athenæum Library, Liverpool.

1889. Feb. 7 *Atkinson, Wm. Christopher. 8 Harrington street, Liverpool.

1890. Jan. 23 *Ayrton, William. 9 Cook street, Liverpool.

1886. Nov. 18 *Banner, John S. Harmood. Ashfield Hall, Neston, Cheshire.

1889. Mar. 7 *Bartlett, William. Highfield House, Knotty Ash, Liverpool.

1892. Feb. 25 *Beazley, Edwin A. 25 Water street, Liverpool.

1896. Feb. 13 Beeston, Charles G. Long lane, Aughton.

1891. Dec. 3 *Bell, Henry. Greenfield, West Kirby, Cheshire.

1897. Jan. 28 Bellis, W. R. North Madoc street, Llandudno.

1864. Dec. 1 *Benas, B. L. 5 Prince's avenue, Liverpool.

1889. Mar. 7 *Bencke, Albert Henry, M.A. Oliva, West Derby, Liverpool.

1894. April 5 *Bennett, Richard. Nottingham Buildings, 19, Brunswick street, Liverpool.

1897. Nov. 4 *Bingham, David A. 15 Brunswick street, Liverpool.

1896. Jan. 16 *Birkenhead Free Public Library. Birkenhead.

1891. Feb. 19 Birley, Major Hugh Arthur. Woodside, Knutsford.

1889. Oct. 31 Birmingham Central Free Library. Ratcliff place, Birmingham.

1870. April 7 Blackburn Free Library. Blackburn.

Date of Election.			
1891.	Feb.	5	Bleckly, William Henry. Thelwall Lea, Warrington.
1883.	Mar.	8	Blundell, Rev. T. B. H., M.A., Hon. Canon of Liverpool; Hon. Chaplain to Her Majesty the Queen. Halsall Rectory, Ormskirk.
1888.	Mar.	22	Bodleian Library. Oxford.
1890.	Nov.	6	*Bootle Free Library. Oriel road, Bootle.
1888.	Mar.	22	Boston Athenæum. Boston, U.S.A.; c/o Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co., Paternoster house, Charing Cross rd., London, W.C.
1889.	Jan.	10	Boston Public Library. Boston, U.S.A.; c/o Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co.
1853.	Dec.	15	Bossi, Arthur. Care of Thompson, Melly & Co., Brown's Buildings, Liverpool.
1881.	Dec.	1	Bourne, Robert W. Higham, Northiam, Sussex.
1889.	Feb.	21	*Bradbury, George. 14 Cook street, Liverpool.
1891.	Feb.	5	Bretherton, Rev. Humphrey W., M.A. Eccleston Rectory, Chorley.
1898.	Nov.	3	*Brierley, A. W. 45 Criendale road, Port Sunlight.
1891.	Nov.	5	British Museum Library; c/o Messrs. Dulau and Co. 37 Soho square, London, W.
1876.	April	20	*Bromley, James, The Homestead, Lathom, Ormskirk.
1888.	Feb.	23	Brooke, Colonel Thomas, F.S.A. Armitage Bridge, Huddersfield.
1868.	Feb.	6	Brooks, Sir William Cunliffe, Bart., M.P., F.S.A. Barlow Hall, Manchester.
1897.	Mar.	11	*Bulpit, Rev. W. T., M.A. Crossens Rectory, Southport.
1881.	Jan.	27	Burnley Literary and Scientific Club, (per T. G. Crump, B.A., M.B., *Hon. Sec.*) Burnley.
1879.	Jan.	9	Caraher, Hugh. Boyne Lodge, Abbey road, Llandudno.
1885.	Jan.	22	Caröe, W. D. 94 Cheyne Walk, Chelsea, S.W.
1888.	Nov.	15	Carrington, W. A. Bakewell, Derbyshire.
1894.	Nov.	1	*Carson, Thomas Ellis. 62 Grove street, Liverpool.
1891.	Nov.	5	Castle, Egerton, M.A., F.S.A. 49 Sloane gardens, London, S.W.
1897.	Dec.	2	*Castle, Septimus. 12 Devonshire road, Birkenhead.
1889.	Feb.	21	*Caton, Richard, M.D. Rodney street, Liverpool.
1888.	Dec.	13	Chadwick, Edwin. Mottram road, Stalybridge.

Date of Election.		
1889 Jan.	10	Chester, the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of, D.D. The Palace, Chester, *President.*
1879. Jan.	9	Chetham Library. Manchester.
1893. Feb.	23	Chicago Public Library. Chicago, U.S.A.
1859. April	14	CLEMENT, LEONARD. Forest View, Nelson-in-Marsden, Burnley.
1892. Nov.	3	*Cockbain, T. Herbert. 6 Castle street, Liverpool.
1891. Nov.	5	*Cook, Edmund. Oakfield, Abergele.
1855. May	24	*COMBER, THOMAS. B 13 Exchange Buildings, Liverpool.
1894. Nov.	1	*Cornett, Alfred. 15 Lord street, Liverpool.
1889. Mar.	7	*Cox, Edward W. 53 Moorfields, Liverpool.
1895. Dec.	5	Crook, John. 6 Waterloo road, Southport.
1896. Mar.	26	*Cullen, Hugh, Junr. Oakhill park, Old Swan, Liverpool.
1895. Nov.	7	De Hoghton, Sir James, Bart. Hoghton Tower, Preston.
1889. Jan.	10	Dempsey, Miss Ellinor Mary. Sand Hey, Hoylake.
1893. Nov.	30	DERBY, THE EARL OF, K.G., G.C.B., Lord Lieutenant of Lancashire. Knowsley, Prescot, *Vice-President.*
1892. Nov.	3	Detroit Public Library. Detroit, Michigan, U.S.A. (Per B. F. Stevens, 4 Trafalgar square, London, W.C.)
1857. April	23	DEVONSHIRE, THE DUKE OF, K.G. Chatsworth, Chesterfield.
1895. Dec.	5	Dickson, Edmund. 2 Starkie street, Preston.
1896. Dec.	3	*Duffus, George A., M.B. Tue Brook villa, Liverpool.
1896. Dec.	3	*Dunn, W. J. R., M.D. 44 West Derby road, Liverpool.
1894. Nov.	15	*Dunthorne, Edwin E. 27 Lord street, Liverpool.
1888. Mar.	22	Earle, Hardman Arthur. 7 Hill street, Rutland Gate, London, S.W.
1890. Feb.	20	Earle, Major Henry, D.S.O. Allerton Tower, Woolton.
1888. Feb.	9	*Earle, T. Algernon. Hartford, Cheshire.
1851. Jan.	7	EGERTON OF TATTON, THE LORD. Tatton Park, Knutsford, Cheshire.
1898. Nov.	3	*Ehrenborg, Harold. 49 Sydenham avenue, Liverpool.
1891. Mar.	19	*Elliot, Robert J. 111 Chatham street, Liverpool.
1897. Nov.	4	*Ellis, John W., M.D. 18 Rodney Street, Liverpool.

Date of Election.		
1891. Jan. 22	Ellis, Thomas Ratcliffe. 18 King street, Wigan.
1889. Oct. 31	Esdaile, George. The Old Rectory, Platt-in-Rusholme, Manchester.
1886. Nov. 18	*Eshelby, H. Douglas, F.S.A. 80 Shrewsbury road, Oxton, Birkenhead.
1848. Nov. 23	Evans, Edward. Bronwylfa, Wrexham.
1878. Jan. 10	Fairclough, John. Latchford Grange, Warrington.
1891. Mar. 5	Farrer, William. Marton House, Skipton.
1871. Jan. 12	Ferguson, William, F.C.S., F.G S., F.R.S.E. Kilmundy House, near Mintlaw, N.B.
1891. Feb. 19	ffarington, Lieut.-Col. R. A. Mariebonne, Wigan.
1888. Nov. 15	*Finney, Charles F. Huyton House, Huyton.
1880. April 1	Fishwick, Lieut.-Col. Henry, F.S.A. The Heights, Rochdale.
1891. Mar. 19	*Fletcher, Mrs. Alfred. Allerton House, Woolton, Liverpool.
1890. Nov. 6	Formby, John. Formby Hall, Formby.
1891. Dec. 3	*Fox, John D. 1 Ellel grove, Rocky lane, Anfield, Liverpool.
1875. Jan. 7	Garnett, William. Quernmore Park, Lancaster.
1890. Jan. 9	*Gatehouse, Charles. Westwood, Noctorum, Birkenhead.
1867. April 11	*Genn, John Hawke. Rutland House, Nicholas road, Blundellsands.
1896. Dec. 3	*Gilbertson, Alfred. 6 Stanley street, Liverpool.
1889. Feb. 21	*Gladstone, Robert. Harrington street, Liverpool.
1893. Nov. 2	*Goffey, Thomas. Amalfi, Blundellsands, Liverpool.
1897. Nov. 4	*Goodacre, William. Terra Nova, Aughton, Ormskirk.
1889. Nov. 14	*Gregson, Wm. Eugene. 43 Moor lane, Great Crosby, *Hon. Treasurer.*
1854. Aug. 31	Grenside, Rev. William Bent, M.A. Melling Vicarage, Carnforth.
1898. Nov. 3	*Handley, William. Aldersyde, Runcorn.
1890. Nov. 6	*Hannay, A. M. Queen Insurance Buildings, Liverpool.
1883. Jan. 25	*Hargreaves, John. Egerton Park, Rock Ferry.
1894. April 5	*Harris, George. 35 Fairview road, Oxton, Cheshire.

Date of Election.			
1891.	Feb.	5	*Harrison, Frederick J. Mersey chambers, Old churchyard, Liverpool.
1898.	Nov.	3	*Hawley, Wilfrid. Egerton park, Rock Ferry.
1891.	Feb.	5	Head, Robert. West Lodge, Congleton.
1895.	Feb.	7	*Heyn, G. P. Forwood. 20 Chapel street, Liverpool.
1872.	Sept.	5	HINMERS, W. Cleveland House, Lancaster road, Eccles, Manchester.
1891.	Nov.	5	*Holland, Walter. Mossley Hill, Liverpool.
1891.	Nov.	19	Hope, Thomas H. The Laburnums, Atherton, Manchester.
1890.	Feb.	20	*Hornby, Hugh Frederick. Sandown Lodge, Wavertree, Liverpool.
1888.	Dec.	13	HOVENDEN, ROBERT, F.S.A. Heathcote, Park Hill road, Croydon.
1890.	Jan.	23	Hughes, George. Metropolitan Bank, Oxford.
1887.	Mar.	24	Hutton, Wm. L. "*Advertiser*" Office, Ormskirk.
1891.	Nov.	5	Ireland, National Library of, c/o Messrs. Hodges, Figgis & Co., Dublin.
1893.	Nov.	2	Irven, Mrs. John D. Dutton Lodge, Preston Brook.
1890.	Nov.	6	*Irvine, Wm. Fergusson. 4 Eaton road, Birkenhead, *Hon. Assistant Secretary.*
1889.	Oct.	31	*Ismay, Thomas Henry. Dawpool, Birkenhead.
1897.	Mar.	11	James, William Ashton. 1 Fleet street, Temple Bar, London, E.C.
1890.	Nov.	6	*Kent-Green, Mrs. Edward. 32 Derwent road, Liverpool.
1890.	Nov.	6	Kerfoot-Jones, J. The Bank, Hoylake.
1863.	Nov.	5	*King, John Thomson. 4 Clayton square, Liverpool.
1890.	Dec.	4	*Kirk, William. 15 Lord street, Liverpool.
1897.	Mar.	11	Knowles, Mrs. Frederick. Belair, Birkdale, Southport.
1897.	Nov,	4	Lancaster Free Public Library. Lancaster.
1888.	Nov.	29	Lawrence, William Frederick, M.A., M.P. Cowesfield House, Salisbury.
1889.	Mar.	7	Leeds, Free Public Library of. Leeds.
1891.	Nov.	5	Letts, Rev. Ernest F., M.A. Newton Heath Rectory, Manchester.
1892.	Feb.	25	*Lever, William Hesketh. Thornton Manor, Thornton Hough, Cheshire.
1889.	Feb.	7	*Lister, A. Hamilton. Basil Grange, West Derby.
			*Liverpool Free Public Library. William Brown street, Liverpool.

Date of Election.	
1893. Nov. 2	*Livesey, John. 30 James street, Liverpool.
1889. Oct. 31	London, Library of the Corporation of. (Charles Welch, Librarian.) Guildhall, London, E.C.
1891. Nov. 5	Mainwaring, Colonel Charles Salusbury, Galtfaenan, Trefnant, R. S. O., N. Wales.
1898. Nov. 3	*Marshall, Ambrose, c/o Messrs. R. Stubbs & Co., 11 Rumford street, Liverpool.
1888. Feb. 9	Marshall, George William, LL.D., F.S.A., *Rouge Croix.* College of Arms, Queen Victoria street, London, E.C.
1898. Jan. 20	*Mason, George Percival. 34 Castle street, Liverpool.
1896. Nov. 5	May, Thomas. 16 Salisbury street, Warrington.
1891. Feb. 19	Mayler, William. Middleton Lodge, Alsager, Cheshire.
1889. Mar. 7	*McCubbin, Hugh. Mill Bank House, West Derby.
1887. Feb. 10	*McKay, Professor, M.A. University College, Liverpool.
1888. Mar. 22	Manchester Free Reference Library. King street, Manchester.
1888. Nov. 1	*Mansergh, Jas. Fleming. Clougha, Hargreaves road, Sefton park, Liverpool.
1896. Dec. 3	Martin, Edgar G. Brookfield, Ormskirk.
1874. Feb. 18	*Mawdsley, James Platt. 26 Castle street, Liverpool.
1894. April 5	*Mead, William D. Highlands, Prenton hill, Birkenhead.
1890. Nov. 6	*Meade-King, Richard R. Sandfield park, West Derby.
1892. Nov. 3	*Morgan, Joseph B. Stand House, Childwall, Liverpool.
1888. Nov. 1	Myres, T. Harrison. 15 Chapel street, Preston.
1857. Jan. 15	Naylor, Richard Christopher. Kelmarsh Hall, Northampton.
1897. Mar. 25	New York, Public Library of. U.S.A.
1893. Feb. 9	Newberry Library. Chicago, U.S.A.
1874. Dec. 10	Nicholson, Major Edward J. 22, Bathwick hill, Bath.
1889. Mar. 7	Norris, Edward S. Clifton Villas, Llanelly.
1889. Feb. 7	Owen, William. Cairo street Chambers, Warrington.
1888. Mar. 22	Owens' College, c/o J. E. Cornish, 16 St. Ann's square, Manchester.
1891. Dec. 17	Parker, Major John W. R. Browsholme Hall, Clitheroe.

Date of Election.			
1891.	Nov.	5	Park-Yates, Mrs. Ince Hall, Chester.
1896.	Dec.	3	*Parry. W. E. 67 Lord street, Liverpool.
1897.	Jan.	28	*Patchett, Alfred. 37 York road, Birkdale, Southport.
1891.	Feb.	5	Pearson, George. Southside, Wilmslow, Cheshire.
1896.	Jan.	30	Peck, Herbert, M.D. Ormskirk.
1895.	Nov.	7	Pedley, George. Moody House, Congleton.
1890.	Nov.	6	*Peet, Henry, F.S.A. 97 Mount Pleasant, Liverpool.
1860.	Mar.	21	Petty, Thomas Shaw. 128 Mount street, London, W.
1894.	Nov.	1	*Phipps, S. W. Harlescot, Longland road, Liscard.
1877.	Dec.	13	Pierpoint, Robert, M.A., M.P. St. Austin's, Warrington.
1890.	Dec.	18	Pilkington, Sir George A., Knt. Belle Vue, Lord street West, Southport.
1886.	Nov.	18	*Pilkington, Lieut.-Col. John, F.S.A. Rookwood, Sandown Park, Wavertree.
1896.	Nov.	5	*Pilkington, J. Arthur. Heathfield, Maghull.
1894.	Nov.	29	*Pilkington, Thomas. Holme Lacy, Hereford.
1896.	Mar.	26	*Plummer, W. E. The Observatory, Bidston, Birkenhead.
1898.	Feb.	3	*Poole, Miss M. Ellen. Alsager, Cheshire.
1887.	Mar.	24	Powell, Rev. Edward. Lydiate, Maghull.
1890.	Feb.	20	*Prentice, John George. 62 Shrewsbury road, Birkenhead.
1892.	Feb.	11	*Price, William F. College road, Crosby.
1889.	Feb.	21	*Quiggin, John M. 8 Harrington street, Liverpool.
1889.	Oct.	31	*Radcliffe, Sir David, Knt. Rosebank, Knowsley, Prescot.
1888.	Feb.	9	*Radcliffe, Frederick M. 9 Cook street, Liverpool.
1896.	Dec.	17	*Radcliffe, John. Rosebank, Knowsley, Prescot.
1879.	Jan.	8	*Radcliffe, Richard Duncan, M.A., F.S.A., Old Swan, Liverpool, *Hon. Secretary*.
1892.	Nov.	3	Radclyffe, C. R. Eustace (1st Life Guards). The Hyde, Wareham, Dorset.
1891.	Feb.	5	Reynolds, Rev. Charles L., M.A. Wray Vicarage, Lancaster.
1889.	Oct.	31	*Ridgway, Ebenezer. Huyton, Liverpool.

Date of Election.			
1889.	Jan.	10	Ridgway, John Clare. Grappenhall lodge, near Warrington.
1891.	Dec.	17	Rigg, George Wilson. Golborne.
1890.	Nov.	6	*Robinson, Arthur Muschamp. Lorne road, Claughton, Birkenhead.
1891.	Nov.	5	*Robinson, Lieut.-Col. Herbert J. Bridge House, Mossley Hill drive, Liverpool.
1876.	April	20	Roper, William O., F.S.A. Yealand Conyers, Lancaster.
1891.	Nov.	5	Roscoe, James. Kirkby.
1889.	Oct.	31	Royds, Clement Molyneux. Greenhill, Rochdale.
1888.	Nov.	29	*Russell, Sir Edward R., Knt. 6 Abercromby square, Liverpool.
1870.	Nov.	3	*Rylands, John Paul, F.S.A. Heather Lea, Claughton, Birkenhead, *Vice-President.*
1854.	Dec.	13	Rylands, Thomas Glazebrook, F.S.A., F.L.S., M.R.I.A. Highfields, Thelwall, Warrington, *Vice-President.*
1874.	Dec.	10	Rylands, William Harry, F.S.A. Society of Biblical Archæology, 37 Great Russell street, Bloomsbury, London, W.C.
1891.	Feb.	19	Ryland, John William. Rowington, Warwick.
1890.	Nov.	6	*Ryley, Thomas Cropper. 19 Sweeting street, Liverpool.
1888.	Mar.	22	St. Helens Free Public Library. St. Helens.
1872.	Mar.	21	Salisbury, The Marquess of, K.G. Hatfield, Herts.
1898.	Nov.	3	*Sampson, John. University College, Liverpool.
1888.	Nov.	15	Sandeman, Lieut.-Col. John Glas, Sub-Officer H.M. Hon. Corps of Gentlemen at Arms. 24 Cambridge square, London, W.
1891.	Nov.	19	Sanders, Rev. Francis, M.A. Hoylake Vicarage, Cheshire.
1897.	Dec.	16	*Scarborough, Charles. 6 Chatham place, Edge Hill, Liverpool.
1898.	Feb.	3	*Scarisbrick, Charles. Scarisbrick Lodge, Southport.
1889.	Jan.	10	*Scholefield, Joshua William. 33 Pembroke road, Bootle.
1894.	Nov.	1	*Scott, David. 10 North John street, Liverpool.
1898.	Nov.	3	*Seddon, F. W. Woodhey, Rock Ferry.
1893.	Nov.	2	*Shallcross, Thomas Myddleton. 25 Lord street, Liverpool.
1891.	Nov.	5	Shaw, Giles. 4 Ash street, Southport.

Date of Election.			
1894.	April	5	Sheldon, Alfred S., Town Clerk. Congleton.
1891.	Feb.	19	*Shute, Arthur. 67, Hope street, Liverpool.
1891.	Feb.	19	*Sill, T. Byrne. 28 Wellington road, Oxton, Birkenhead.
1897.	Nov.	18	Smith, Bernard. Rainford.
1892.	Nov.	3	*Smith, Rev. Frederick. Island road, Garston.
1897.	Jan.	28	Southport (Atkinson) Free Public Library.
1880.	April	1	Stanning, Rev. Joseph Heaton, M.A. The Vicarage, Leigh, Lancashire.
1891.	Feb.	5	Stapleton-Bretherton, Frederick. The Hall, Rainhill.
1884.	Nov.	13	Starkie, Lieut.-Colonel Le Gendre Nicholas. Huntroyde, Burnley.
1876.	April	6	*Stewart, Rev. Alexander, M.A., Hon. Canon of Liverpool. 29 Sandon street, Liverpool, *Vice-President.*
1890.	Nov.	6	*Stewart, Rev. Percy, M.A. The Rectory, West Derby.
1893.	Nov.	2	Stoner, Thomas. The Orchard, Lathom, Ormskirk.
1891.	Nov.	5	Stonyhurst College, Rev. the Rector of, S.J. Blackburn.
1891.	Mar.	19	Stubs, Peter. Blaisdon Hall, Newnham, Gloucestershire.
1893.	Mar.	9	Stuttard, Thomas. Lawnswood, Swinton park, Manchester.
1897.	Dec.	16	Taylor, Alexander. St. Mary's place, Bury.
1898.	Nov.	3	*Taylor, Edward Russell. 67 Lord street, Liverpool.
1889.	Feb.	7	*Taylor, Francis Willis 9 Cook street, Liverpool.
1889.	April	4	Taylor, Henry. Braeside, Rusthall, Tunbridge Wells.
1872.	Sept.	5	Taylor, James. Rencombe, Gloucestershire.
1887.	Feb.	10	Tempest, Mrs. Arthur Cecil. Broughton Hall, Skipton-in-Craven.
1889.	Feb.	21	*Thompson, Edward P. Whitchurch, Salop.
1890.	Nov.	6	*Thompson, John. 11 Bentley road, Liverpool.
1891.	Jan.	8	*Thompson-Yates, Rev. S. A., M.A. 45 Phillimore Gardens, London, W.
1889.	Oct.	31	*Thornely, Jas. L. 5 Fenwick street, Liverpool.
1886.	Nov.	1	Threlfall, Henry S. 12 London street, Southport.
1890.	Nov.	6	Tonge, William Asheton. Disley, Cheshire.
1888.	Feb.	23	Toulmin, John. "*Guardian*" Office, Preston.
1889.	Oct.	31	*Turton, Fletcher Thomas. Municipal Buildings, Liverpool.

Date of Election.			
1890.	Dec.	18	*Van Gruisen, Nicholas. 27 Bold street, Liverpool.
1872.	Dec.	12	Veevers, R. Woningworth, Fulwood Park, Preston.
1894.	Nov.	29	*Vyner, Robert C. de Grey. Newby Hall, Ripon.
1873.	Dec.	11	Waddington, W. A. 16 Piccadilly road, Burnley.
1889.	Oct.	31	*Wainwright, Thos. T. Union court, Liverpool.
1894.	April	5	Warburton, Rev. William. Altcar Vicarage, Liverpool.
1892.	Nov.	3	Warrington Museum. Warrington.
1896.	Nov.	19	*Watkins, J. R. 5 Harrington street, Liverpool.
1897.	Nov.	4	Wearing, J. W., M.A. Fleet square, Lancaster.
1849.	Feb.	1	*Webster, George. 6 York Buildings, Dale street, Liverpool.
1891.	Mar.	5.	Weeks, W. Self. Clitheroe.
1895.	Nov.	7	*Weightman, Percy O. Fern Lea, Seaforth.
1888.	Dec.	13	Weldon, William Henry, *Norroy King of Arms.* College of Arms, London, E.C.
1856.	Jan.	3	Welton, Thomas A. 38, St. James's road, Brixton, London, S.E.
1862.	Mar.	13	Westminster, The Duke of, K.G., Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire. Eaton Hall, Chester, *Vice-President.*
1896.	Mar.	26	*Whinnerah, William. 20 Wellington road, Oxton, Birkenhead.
1897.	April	8	White, Richard Prosser, M.D. Standishgate, Wigan.
1891.	Feb.	5	White, Rev. W. Stuart, M.A. Esh Vicarage, Durham.
1889.	Jan.	10	Wigan Free Library, Wigan.
1892.	Dec.	15	Williams, Rev. J. Wright, M.A. Farnworth Vicarage, Widnes.
1896.	Nov.	19	*Williamson, James. Stanley road, Linacre.
1892.	Mar.	24	*Wilson, C. F. B. 24 Prince's avenue, Liverpool.
1885.	Nov.	26	*Wilson, W. Forshaw. 20 Croxteth road, Sefton Park, Liverpool.
1865.	Dec.	7	Wood, Richard Henry, F.S.A., F.R.G.S. Belmont, Sidmouth, S. Devon.
1891.	Nov.	19	Woodhouse, Miss E. D. Burghill Court, Hereford.
1888.	Dec.	13	Woods, Sir Albert William, K.C.M.G., C.B., F.S.A., *Garter King of Arms.* College of Arms, London, E.C.

Date of Election.		
1888. Nov.	29	Worsley, James E., F.S.A. Winwick, Newton-le-Willows.
1892. Nov.	3	Worsley, Philip J. Rodney Lodge, Clifton, Bristol.
1892. Jan.	18	*Wynne, George. *Mercury* office, Liverpool.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS.

1885. Nov.	26	*Atherton, Webster. 8 Victoria park, Walton.
1895. Nov.	7	*Ball, T. Stanley. Care of Messrs. Eskrigge & Roby, 5, Cook street, Liverpool.
1893. Nov.	30	Dolan, Dom Gilbert, O.S.B. St. Benedict's, Ealing, London, W.
1889. Dec.	12	Grazebrook, George, F.S.A. Sudbury, Harrow.
1888. Mar.	8	*Shaw, George Thomas. Athenæum, Church street, Liverpool, *Hon. Librarian.*
1894. Nov.	1	*Waite, James A. 6 Fairfield street, Fairfield, Liverpool.

HONORARY MEMBERS.

1855. Feb.	1	Clarke, Joseph, F.S.A. The Roos, Saffron-Walden, Essex.
1875. Jan.	7	Coughtrey, Millen. London street, Otago, New Zealand.
1880. Oct.	5	Dean, John Ward. 18 Somerset street, Boston, Mass., United States of America.
1870. Sept.	13	Hooker, Sir Joseph Dalton, C.B. The Camp, Sunningdale, Berkshire.
1854. Sept.	27	Latham, R. Gordon, M.D. 96 Disraeli road, Putney, London.
1870. Sept.	13	Lubbock, Sir John, Bart., M.P., F.R.S., F.S.A. High Elms, Hayes, Beckenham, Kent.
1852. Dec.	9	MacAdam, Robert. 18 College square East, Belfast.
1891. Dec.	3	Oxford, the Lord Bishop of, F.S.A. Cuddesdon Palace, Oxford, *Vice-President.*
1880. Oct.	5	Ruskin, John, LL.D. Brantwood, Coniston, Lancashire, *Vice-President.*
1870. Sept.	13	Stokes, Sir George Gabriel, Bart., M.P., P.R.S., LL.D. Pembroke College, Cambridge.

List of Honorary Local Secretaries.

LANCASHIRE.

District.	Name.
Bacup	Rev. J. S. Doxey, Christ Church Vicarage, Bacup.
Blackburn	
Blackpool	The Rev. E. Lupton, Crystal Road, South Shore, Blackpool.
Burnley	W. Farrer, Marton House, Skipton.
Carnforth	The Rev. W. B. Grenside, Melling Vicarage, Carnforth.
Clitheroe	A. J. Robinson, Clitheroe Castle, Clitheroe.
Colne	James Carr, Colne.
Denton	The Rev. A. Crofton, Reddish Green.
Flixton	D. J. Leech, M.D., Elm House, Whalley Range.
Haslingden	Henry Stephenson, Haslingden.
Hawkshead	Joseph Rawlinson, Ulverston.
Lancaster	W. O. Roper, F.S.A., Lancaster.
Leigh	W. D. Pink, King Street, Leigh.
Leyland	The Rev. W. Stuart White, Esh Vicarage, Durham.
Ormskirk	James Bromley, The Homestead, Lathom.
Prescot	
Rainford	The Rev. J. W. Williams, The Vicarage, Farnworth.
Ribchester	
Rochdale	Lt.-Col. Fishwick, F.S.A., The Heights, Rochdale.
Sefton	W. E. Gregson, 43, Moor Lane, Great Crosby.
Southport	H. S. Threlfall, 12, London Street, Southport.
Ulverston	
Warrington	W. Owen, F.R.I.B.A., Cairo Street Chambers, Warrington.
Whalley and Pendle Hill	W. S. Weeks, Clitheroe.
Wigan	T. R. Ellis, 18, King Street, Wigan.
Winwick and Newton-le-Willows	Rev. J. Carson, Winwick, Newton-le-Willows.
Wray, near Lancaster	Rev. C. L. Reynolds, Wray Vicarage, Lancaster.

CHESHIRE.

Bebington	E. W. Cox, Woodhey, Rock Ferry.
Congleton	Robert Head, Congleton.
Eastham	Rev. Francis Sanders, Hoylake.
Holmes Chapel ...	Rev. H. G. Barnacle, Holmes Chapel.
Hyde	Rev. J. F. Messenger, Newton Moor Vicarage, Hyde.
Malpas	
Nantwich	James Hall, Lindum House, Nantwich.
Northwich and Middlewich ...	Wm. Bancroft, Northwich.
Thurstaston	
Wallasey	
Wilmslow	George Pearson, Southside, Wilmslow.

TRANSACTIONS.

TRANSACTIONS.

A HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE REGALIA AND PLATE OF THE BOROUGH OF PRESTON.

By T. Stanley Ball.

Read 11th March, 1897.

AT a time when art treasures are becoming yearly of more value—particularly if they should happen to have historic associations, apart from their intrinsic value—no apology need be offered for the publication of a description of the valuable insignia and plate belonging to the ancient town of Preston. Although the regalia may be regarded as a remnant of past ages, when it was found necessary to parade outward and visible signs of the authority of law and government, still there is sufficient historical interest remaining in them; and in connection with them exist evidences of a continuity of government passed down through generations, which successive townsmen have in their turn honoured and preserved, as legacies bequeathed by their forefathers.

The regalia of Preston is very rich and striking, both in the number and value of the symbolic emblems of civic authority and power. The

examples of the gold- and silver-smith's art found amongst the regalia have one not unimportant merit. They are not all of one period or one style, the dates of their manufacture extending over a period of more than 270 years, forming, in a limited degree, rare and beautiful specimens of different phases in the development of art work through these long years, which have been preserved to us by the care of our forefathers.

At one period it was the custom for the Corporation to borrow plate and other silver for such occasions as the celebration of the guild merchant, from persons who were the possessors of suitable articles. The following quaint order is taken from the Council minute book, passed at a meeting held on the 21st July, 1682, just prior to the guild of that year:—"Ordered, that all plate and other "Goods borrowed from any p'son for and towards "ye carrying on of ye Guild shall be carefully "restored backe, and if any damage or losse "happen to any p'son for or by reason of ye lóane "of such plate and other goods yt ye same shall "be repaired and satisfyed forth of ye p'fitt of "ye sd Guild or otherwise by ye Towne." No doubt such an undertaking on the part of the Corporation would produce all the plate and other goods which they required. At that time they were not possessed of any plate, except the covered hanap or cup, presented by Henry Banester.

Twenty years after, in view of the guild of 1702, the Council, at a meeting held on the 8th June in that year, passed a somewhat similar resolution. Even at that time they had no plate beyond the Banester cup, but the presentations that were made to them subsequently rendered unnecessary the later borrowing of plate, for no record exists of such in connection with the subsequent guilds. The following is a copy of the order of the Council

of the 8th June, 1702, and is recorded here for the reason that, although twenty years later, the spelling of the words is more unlike the modern form than the order of 1682. "That all plate and "other goods wch shalbe borowed from any p'son "or p'sons for the use and service of the Guyld "shalbe carefully restored back, and if any damage "or loss happen to any for or by reason of the "loan of such plate or oth' goods soe lent, that "yt shalbe repayred and made good out of ye p'fits "of the Guyld or otherwise out of the revennues "of ye Corporacon." Since that time, however, the Corporation have become possessed, by gift or purchase, of a collection of plate of which the town has reason to call itself proud.

Up to quite recent years it was the practice for successive mayors to have the use of the plate at their private residences during their term of office, but this has been wisely discontinued, and the plate never goes beyond the Town Hall. The former custom may or may not be the cause of the portions of the plate mentioned in the old records not being now in existence; at all events, there is less fear now that the treasures the Corporation possesses will either be neglected or forgotten.

I. The Regalia.

The regalia proper, which will be first dealt with, consists of the following articles, viz.:—The gold mace, two silver maces, town flag, mayor's wand, the sword of state, two halberds, and the oar.

THE MACES.

"He mightily upheld that royal mace
Which now thou bearest."—*Faery Queen*, b. ii.

The word mace is derived from the Saxon word *mazza*. Originally a weapon of defence, it became, and has been from time immemorial, like the royal

sceptre, a sign merely of the authority vested in the person before whom it was borne. In mediæval times great personages were escorted by their guards bearing the mace, then a simple form of club, but which gradually became, as its practical use diminished, an object of embellishment, and a method of exhibiting the craftsman's handiwork. When this period arrived, maces came to be borne by royal and official personages only; but the symbolical meaning would be perfectly well known. Indeed, in early times the appearance of the mace would be sufficient to overawe the multitude: with so much respect was it regarded. Probably the abuse of the power which accompanied the mace caused Richard II, in the seventeenth year of his reign, to decree, on the petition of the House of Commons, "that no sergeant of any town should "be allowed to carry his mace out of his own "Liberty and Township." Hence it happens that most of the charters granted by sovereigns subsequent to this decree contain a clause prohibitive of carrying the mace outside the boundary of the jurisdiction of the commonalty to whom the charters are granted. Thus, Queen Elizabeth, in her charter to Preston (8 Eliz., 1566), authorises the appointment of a sergeant-at-mace, who "may and can bear a mace engraven with our "arms within the limits and bounds of the said "borough during the time that he shall be in that "office."

Whether the sergeant-at-mace did bear the token of authority in the exercise of the duties of his office it is impossible to say, for there is no mention in the records of any such having been acquired by the Corporation; but most probably he did carry some symbol of his office dignified by the name of a mace, for it must be remembered that at that period maces of authority partook more of

the form of a small sceptre, as it was not until more than a century later that they were made of the ornamental character of the modern examples. Two of the oldest maces in existence are those of the Corporation of Hedon, a small town in Yorkshire, of sixteenth century manufacture, and they are merely bowls, only slightly ornamented, with staff and plain knops. Afterwards the silversmiths elaborated the design, ornamental work becoming much in vogue.

In boroughs possessing maces they are always borne before the mayor in all civic processions and other official occasions, as symbolical of the supreme authority vested in the office. It is usual, however, whenever the reigning sovereign visits a town, for the mayor himself to bear the mace before the monarch in any official function, thus acknowledging the superior claims and precedence of the sovereign of the realms.

THE GREAT MACE.

The great mace belonging to the Corporation of Preston is probably one of the earliest examples of the period during which it became the fashion for maces to be elaborately ornamented. It is difficult to convey by description any idea of the massive beauty of this mace. It is elaborately ornamented by chasing and fine repoussé work, and forms a fine example of the silversmith's art. The mace is of silver, gilt, and is four feet six inches long. The bowl is crested with an elegant circle of crosses pattée and fleurs-de-lis, from which rise the open arches of the crown, the arches being surmounted by orb and cross. On the flat plate on the top of the bowl, beneath the open arches of the crown, are the royal arms of the Stuarts, surmounted by the royal crown, with the initials A. R. (Anne Regina). Around the bowl, divided into three by

demi-figures and foliage repoussé, are—on one side the arms (with the supporters and ducal coronet) of the House of Hamilton and the motto and Order of the Thistle; on the opposite side are the arms of Preston in the modern style; and on the other side the Lancaster rose, surmounted by a crown between the royal initials, A. R. The shaft is divided by massive knops into three lengths, and the base is richly chased, the medial and foot knops being decorated with raised acanthus leaves, a characteristic decoration of the period of its manufacture.

Round the shaft the following inscription is engraved:—"The Gift of the High and Mighty "Prince James, Duke of Hamilton, Marquess of "Clydsdale, Earl of Arran, Lanark, and Cam-"bridge, Lord of Avon Polemont, Machanshire, "and Innerdale, and Knight of the most antient "and noble Order of the Thistle, &c. To the "Towne of Preston in Lancashire in the year 1703. "In Token of his Friendship to that Corporation, "and of their Civilities to him and Elizabeth "Gerard, Dutches of Hamilton, His consort, "Testified on Several Occasions during their abode "in that place, and particularly upon the birth of "their Son James, Marquis of Clydsdale, who was "born in Preston, the third day of January, 1701." Ashton Hall, Lancashire, was one of the seats of the Dukes of Hamilton.

The mace bears the Hall marks of the London Assay Office of the year 1702-3, and the maker's mark indicates that it was manufactured by Mr. Benjamin Pyne, a noted goldsmith of the period.

This mace has an additional and interesting value, inasmuch as it is an example of what is known as the "Britannia period." Under the Act 8 and 9 William III, cap. 8, sec. 9, the standard for silver plate was raised in 1697 above that of the coinage, in order to prevent the melting

down of the coin of the realm for the purpose of making plate, a practice that had then apparently become much in vogue. New marks were accordingly appointed for the new standard—a figure of Britannia and lion's head erased—instead of the familiar marks of the leopard's head and lion passant. The new standard, however, ceased to be compulsory in 1720, by the Act 6 George I, cap. 2, chiefly on account of the fact that plate made of the higher standard was found to be less durable than the old one. The lower standard was restored in 1720, and has continued ever since.

The Corporation are to be congratulated on the possession of this and other silver, forming as they do examples of a limited period, during which a different standard of silver was compulsory, the higher standard being 8 dwt. per lb. troy purer; being 11oz. 10dwt. per lb. troy, whilst the old or lower standard represented 11oz. 2dwt. per lb. troy.

As the inscription on the mace indicates, it was presented in 1703, two years after the event which it is in commemoration of, viz., the birth of the Marquis of Clydsdale, at Preston, on the 3rd Jan., 1701. The inscription records the "civilities" shown to his grace by the Corporation. Amongst these was probably that of the Duke being admitted an in-burgess on the 19th August, 1701, during the mayoralty of Mr. George Addison.

Apparently neither the Corporation nor the Duke of Hamilton forgot the interesting tie which bound them together, for at a meeting of the Council, held on the 24th October, 1717, it appears from the Council book :—"It being represented to this "Council that the Lady Dutchess Hamilton is "shortly to pass through this town and the direcons "of this Council being desired touching the re-"spects that must be shewn to Her Grace by this "Corporation during her stay here, it is ordered

"that the sd. Lady Dutchess be waited upon with "a moderate treat at the charge of the Town." Unfortunately, no record was subsequently made of the visit, for it would be interesting to know what a "moderate treat" consisted of in those days.

Thackeray, in his novel, *Henry Esmond*, portrays the Duke's character as that of a high-minded and honourable gentleman; the circumstances of his sad and violent death in 1712, and the causes which led up to it, are fully given.

Previous to the presentation of this mace, the Corporation had in contemplation the purchase of one, for on the 11th July, 1698, they ordered a fine of £10, which had been paid by Mr. Alderman Worden on his resignation, to "in time go towarde "the buying of a large mace for this Burrough," and it may be that the Duke of Hamilton, being aware of this ambition on the part of the Corporation, anticipated their purchase and relieved them of a financial burden which would not have been, in those days, a light one.

Strangely enough, there is no mention whatever in the Corporation records of the presentation of this mace, and the first instance of any reference being made to it was at the Council meeting on the 2nd April, 1705, when the following order was made as to the salary of the mace-bearer:—"Whereas "the Council, taking into their consideration y^t^ no "allowance has as yet been given to the bearer of "the great mace for his trouble and attendance in "carrying the same. It is therefore now thought "fit and ordered, that for the last yeare the last "Bayliffes do pay him forty shillings, wch is to be "allowed them in their A^ccts^. And for the present "and succeeding years his Sallary to be forty shil-"lings p. ann., to be paid by the present and "succeeding Bayliffes for the time being and al-"lowed them in their A^ccts^. And it is further

"ordered, that the Mace Bearer every three years "be p'vided with a new Gown at the Corporation's "charge, and this Sallary and allowance to con- "tinue untill further or other order be made to the "contrary."

There are now three mace bearers, each receiving £6 6*s*. per annum, and having a new gown every three years.

THE SILVER MACES.

The two smaller maces were the first outward tokens of authority possessed by the municipality. They are alike in every detail, each being 2 feet 9 inches in length, and are of great beauty and curious workmanship. No traces of any Hall marks appear on the maces, so that it is impossible to definitely fix the date of their manufacture. They are, however, from the fact of the Stuart arms being placed on them, of earlier manufacture than is generally supposed; dating back, most likely, to early in the seventeenth century. One of the maces of the City of London (that belonging to the Ward of Cheap, which is dated 1625) bears such a resemblance in form and character to them, as to be almost conclusive of concurrent manufacture.

At all events, maces were possessed by the Corporation previous to 1682, as is evidenced by a manuscript in the archives of the Corporation, called "A brief description of the Burrough and "Town of Preston, and of its Government and "Guild." This MS. was probably written for, or soon after, the guild merchant of 1682, for in the list of guilds that had been held, the guild of that year is the last recited.

From this MS. it appears that at the ancient solemnisation of the guild the procession was as follows:—"The young men within the Town not

"being as yet free to trade of themselves have a "Captain and Leftenant of their own—their Ensign "being the Towns Arms—a flag with the Holy "Lamb . . after which marches a proper man "bearing the great Baner with the King's Arms "and after that following in Ranks, the Mayors "pensioners or Guard before the Baner with "Partezans and those after with Halberts after "which followeth signily the Black Sergeant with "his Halberd and then the two Sergeants with "their Maces . . after which the Mayor with "his staff of authority."

This official document, it will be seen, records the fact of two maces being in existence, and this, coupled with the royal arms of the Stuarts appearing on the maces, is fairly conclusive proof that they were obtained some time during the seventeenth century, probably during the reign of Charles I. It is much to be regretted that no definite date of the manufacture of these maces can be fixed, as it would be interesting to compare the date with other ancient maces now in existence.

The bowls are crested with a circlet of four crosses, alternating with as many fleur-de-lis; the open arches of the crown not rising from the circlet itself, but being attached to, and springing from, the top limbs of the crosses, to which they are neatly rivetted. Doubtless these crown arches were added at a later period, as few, if any, examples of maces exist before the time of Chas. II. Thus the mace of the Ward of Cheap, which has been previously mentioned, had an arched crown added in 1678. Round the bowls, which are semi-globular, are, divided from each other by upright raised bands, the arms of Preston, engraved in an unusual style, the Lamb being portrayed as *couchant regardant;* a Lancaster rose crowned, between the royal initials C.R.; and a thistle and a fleur-de-lis,

similarly crowned and initialed. On the flat plate on the top of the bowls, beneath the open arches of the crown, are, in high relief, not repoussé, but attached to the metal, the royal arms of the Stuarts, the same as on the great mace, but without initials. It has been said that these maces formerly bore the name of "Edmund Assheton, "Mayor, 1722," but it is very unlikely, as not the slightest trace of any inscription appears on the maces, and from what has been said above, they are much older than the date indicated by the supposed inscription.

These maces are rapidly wearing away, from the constant cleaning they undergo, and it would be a wise expenditure if the Corporation had them well gilt. This would preserve the silver, and keep them practically in the same state as they are now. They have been handed down so long, it would be a pity if they were wasted and became absolutely worthless, by the form and design being worn away. Though late in the day of their history to have them gilt, it would preserve them in their present condition, and it would not be too late, because they are still handsome and indicate what they originally were.

From the *Corporation Disbursement Book*, 1784 to 1802, are extracted the following items relating to the maces:—"1784-5. Richard Anderson, repairg "maces, 2*s.* 6*d.*" "1793-4. Mr. Anderson, mend- "ing mace, 15*s.* 6*d.*" "1797-8. Pd Mr. Anderson, "rep'g the mace, 10*s.* 6*d.*" In the guild accounts of 1822, prepared by Mr. Green, the borough treasurer and treasurer of the guild, appears the following item:—"To cash for guilding the maces, "£27 2*s.*" This is evidently an error for "mace," as the two small maces bear no trace of ever having been gilt.

THE TOWN FLAG.

From very ancient times it has been the custom for the Corporation to have a flag, which was borne in all important mayoral processions and used on civic occasions. The royal standard is also borne in civic processions during the celebration of the guild merchant, and at no other time. The town flag is carried in the civic processions, or suspended from the principal staircase of the Town Hall.

That the custom of bearing the town flag is an old one there can be no doubt. The earliest record appears to be contained in a manuscript in the archives of the Corporation, written apparently about 1682, entitled "A Brief Description of the "Burrowe and Town of Preston, and of its Govern-"ment and Guild," which has already been referred to in connection with the small silver maces; but an extract from that MS., so far as it relates to the town flag, is here reprinted in its proper connection. The excerpt is from a description of a mayoral procession during the celebration of the guild merchant:—"The young men within the town not "being as yet free to trade of themselves have a "Captain and Leftenant of their own, their ensign "being the Town's Arms—a flag with the Holy "Lamb . . after which marches a proper man "bearing the Great Baner with the King's Arms."

The ancient records of the guild all point to the fact of a town flag being borne in the mayoral processions. In the *History of Preston*, published in 1822, there are two sketches of the town flag, viz.: A small one, pennon-shaped, shown as being borne in the mayor's procession, and a larger one or banner (and probably the most accurate sketch of the flag) in a separate illustration. We may assume the larger sketch to be the one ordered at a meeting of the Council, held on the 31st October,

1794. The following is a copy of the resolution of the Council deciding to obtain the flag :—" Agreed " and ordered that Mr. Green, the Corporation " Treasurer, do forthwith procure a handsome Flag " with the Corporation Arms painted thereon, and " suitable ornaments to be finished in an elegant " style."

The flag referred to in the above order was accordingly purchased by the Corporation, the items for it appearing in the Corporation Disbursements Book for 1795-6, viz. :—" Pd for the Corporation " Flag, £20 16*s.* ; Pd Jas. Thompson for dying the " Fringe, 6*s.*" In the accounts for the following year (1796-7) the following additional item appears: " Pd for Ribbon for Colour, 12*s.*" Then, again, in the accounts commencing May, 1802, there appears: " Item pd Mr. Grimshaw for a Colour at the Guild, " £13 14*s.*"

It may be that the other had become scarcely fit to take part in the important celebration of the guild of 1802, and, therefore, another was purchased, or the item may mean the purchase of a royal standard, which is also carried in the civic processions during the guild.

The present flag—or, to give its form its proper heraldic title, banner—is a new one, having been made expressly for use during the guild of 1882. The previous one not being in existence, it was left to a committee of the Council to procure a flag, and it is much to be regretted that the committee did not, before giving the order, make enquiries as to the style of previous ones, and adhere to that as near as possible for the sake of historical continuity. The committee also obtained a new royal standard.

The town flag is of royal blue silk, 8ft. by 6ft., painted in white on each side with a delineation of the Holy Lamb, and underneath the letters P. P., with the additional lettering added, " Insignia

"Villæ de Preston." The pole to which the flag is attached is 14ft. long, and is surmounted with a brass spear head. The royal standard is of silk, and of the same dimensions as the town flag, and is attached to a smaller pole. The cost of the two was £33 7*s.*, and they were manufactured by a London firm.

The painting of the arms on the town flag is cracked, and in a few years will leave the silk entirely. It is certainly a pity that the arms were not delineated heraldically correct, and embroidered on the silk instead of painted; and considering the handsome banners that are periodically made in Preston itself, it was an unwise policy to go outside the town for the dauby, paltry thing which now does duty for a town flag. It certainly lowers the otherwise high standard of the regalia. A reproduction of the ancient flag, illustrated in the *History of Preston*, published in 1822 (a copy of which is in Dr. Shepherd's library) would be a handsome addition to the mayoral insignia.

THE MAYOR'S WAND OR STAFF.

There are two silver-headed wands of office, both of oak, in the possession of the Corporation. One of them, which is not now used at all, bears on the silver envelope on the top the arms of Preston (the Lamb being delineated *couchant regardant*) and the inscription, "Thomas Sumpner, Sen. Maior of "Preston 1646, Henry Werden, Richard Feilden "Bailiffs." Thomas Sumpner was thrice mayor of the town, the first time in 1646-7, and again in 1653-4. He was one of the stewards of the guild of 1662, and was mayor for the third time in the year 1666-7. He died in January, 1669, having been a member of the Council for 28 years, he being first elected in 1641. This wand is 4ft. 9in. long, with a two-pronged iron ferrule at the bottom, and

was doubtless the gift of the mayor and bailiffs whose names are recorded thereon. The other wand is borne by the mayor on all official occasions, and is an important article of the regalia, from the fact that it is actually handed by the mayor to his successor on election, as an emblem of authority, being transferred from the chief citizen to his successor. For this reason it may be regarded as figuratively representative of the mayoral supremacy and power, and as such, an important part of the regalia, having regard also to its being carried personally by the mayor, and in this respect unlike any other portion of the regalia, which is carried before the mayor. This wand is inscribed round the sides of the silver top—"Ex dono Edwardi "Rigby, Arm'r," (the gift of Edward Rigby, esquire), and on the top are engraved the arms of Preston, but almost obliterated. The wand is 5ft. 6in. long, and has a heavy iron ferrule at the bottom.

Edward Rigby, the donor, was Member of Parliament in the Parliaments of 1660, 1661, 1678-9, and 1679. He was a barrister-at-law, was described as of Preston and Gray's Inn, and was the younger brother of Alexander Rigby, of Middleton. He was appointed sergeant-at-law in 1675. He made his peace with the Royalists after the Restoration, and was appointed a magistrate for the county. He died in July, 1686, and was the founder of the Lancaster branch of the Rigbys, which continued for several generations. His grandson Edward represented Preston in Parliament in 1701 and 1705-6. The eldest brother, already mentioned, Alexander Rigby, of Middleton-in-Goosnargh, near Preston, was parliamentary representative for the county in Cromwell's Parliament of 1659. Alexander was the eldest son of the celebrated Colonel Alexander Rigby, M.P. for Wigan in the Long

Parliament and Baron of the Exchequer, and succeeded to his father's estate in 1650. He was a lieutenant-colonel in the service of the Commonwealth. Elected for Preston in the Convention Parliament in 1660, he was unseated on petition by the House, on the 20th June in that year, owing to the mayor having refused to allow a poll to be taken of the whole of the inhabitants of the borough. He died in February, 1693-4.

The Rigbys were then a numerous and leading family in the county. Their common ancestor was a John Rigby of Wigan, who flourished early in the sixteenth century. His son, Adam, left two sons, and from the elder (John) proceeded the Rigbys of Middleton, while the younger (Alexander) was the ancestor of those of Burgh in Duxbury and of Layton in the Fylde. Colonel Alexander Rigby, Baron of the Exchequer, was grandson of the former. The Rigbys of Middleton were energetic defenders of the Puritan interest in Lancashire, and active parliamentary leaders. Those of Burgh and Layton—the last of whom, Sir Alexander Rigby, was M.P. for Wigan in 1781—were as decided Royalists. The line of Middleton failed in 1794 with Alexander Rigby, fourth in descent from the member for the county, whose sister and heiress married William Shawe, of Preston, and left one son, Townley Rigby Shawe, who died in 1843, and two daughters, viz., Sally, wife of Joseph Knowles, and Jane, married to John Austen. The eldest son of the former, Townley Rigby Knowles, Esq., of Fishwick, is now senior co-heir general of the Rigbys of Middleton.

To return to the two wands of office. Although possessed of them, the Council, under date 22nd March, 1696, requested Mr. Alderman Sudell when he next visited London to purchase "an handsome "cane with a substantiall silver head for Mr.

"Mayor's common walking use," in addition to a silver salver, which will be referred to hereafter. There is no record whether this was actually bought or not, for no further mention is made in the Council books with regard to it. For that reason, the presumption is in favour of its not having been purchased. Neither of the two canes at present in existence can be regarded as the one referred to in the above entry, for the order specified a cane for the "common walking use" of the mayor.

Another order was made by the Council on the 21st March, 1697, twelve months after the date when they requested Alderman Sudell to purchase a cane, for the obtaining of "an handsome walking "stick," or cane with a good silver head, and the Holy Lamb "engraved on the top of the head." This, if ever bought, and it is doubtful if it ever was, does not now exist.

The uncle of this alderman, Roger Sudell, endowed the Blue Coat School, and on one of the pillars in the nave of the old parish church was affixed a tablet with the following inscription:— "Below lie the remains of Mr. Roger Sudell, who "endowed a Cathechetical School for the poor "boys of this town: one conspicuously singular "for his gravity, probity, and piety: he lived "unmarried, died very old, and was interred De- "cember 28th, 1704. To continue whose memory "his nephew, C. Sudell, Prebendary of Chester, "hath fixed here this small tablet. 1732." This tablet is now placed on the wall of the north gallery.

Alderman Sudell was a member of the Council for a great number of years, having been elected on the 24th October, 1679, and had the honour of being guild mayor for the guild of 1682. He was again mayor in 1691 and again in 1708, and died in October, 1713. He acted for the greater part

of the time as receiver of revenue, and disbursed money on behalf of the body corporate, and was the father of the Council. He was an alderman at the time of his death.

THE CIVIC SWORD.

The sword of state is carried by the Corporation beadle in all civic processions. The origin of the use of the sword in state and official ceremonial processions is an ancient privilege once confined to reigning monarchs only, and it was only extended as a mark of royal favour. Swords had from the earliest times been symbolical of the administration of justice, which was, of course, once vested only in the sovereign. Where judicial powers were conferred, the wielding of the sword of justice followed, and an actual sword usually formed part of the administration.

Thus, so far back as 1566, Queen Elizabeth conferred such powers by charter to Preston, the mayor being named as one of Her Majesty's justices of the peace. A further privilege was extended to the borough by the power to hold a Court of Pleas. In two special grants, therefore, the administration of justice was placed in the body corporate; but for many years after, the sword formed no part of their civic appanage, and there is no record of one being used until quite modern times. The existence of the present sword is not recorded in the inventory of regalia and plate made by the then Corporation steward, at the instance of the reformed Corporation, under the Municipal Act of 1836, nor is it mentioned in Whittle's *History of Preston*, published in 1837, with the other regalia. It is not recorded when or how the sword came into the possession of the Corporation.

The sword itself is an ancient one, but the date of its manufacture uncertain. There has, however,

always existed fashions even in swords, and we may by comparison fairly approximate its date to be about the middle of the eighteenth century. Its form is what is technically termed a "Mahratta "tulwar," and has the usual single-edged steel blade, with mercury-gilt hilt and pommel, and a narrow hand-guard covered with leather. It is contained in a plush scabbard, ornamented with mercury-gilt mountings. The plush on the scabbard has the appearance of a recent substitute for leather wrapping similar to the hand-guard. This sword has been described as a sample of Scotch claymore, with an unfinished basket hilt. Nothing, however, is more unlike a real Scotch claymore than the sword which forms part of the regalia, for the latter has a hilt to protect the hand, whereas a real claymore is entirely without the basket hilt usually pourtrayed. These basket-hilted swords were originally used only by the Venetians, and were called "Schiavone," being the special weapon used by the Doge's guards as early as the sixteenth century. This style of sword was absolutely unknown in Scotland till late in the eighteenth century.

Although of little intrinsic value compared with the richly-jewelled appointments of the sword of the Corporation of London, the Preston sword of state has taken part in two at least of the celebrations of the guild merchant—those of 1862 and 1882; besides all the civic functions of note, and otherwise, probably for forty years, and these alone lend value to it in the eyes of loyal townsmen.

THE HALBERDS.

The word "halberd" is derived from "barde," an axe, and "halle," a court; their meaning being significant of their use, halberds being, in ancient times, the common weapon of guards. There are

two halberds, forming part of the regalia, exactly alike in all details, and which are borne in all civic processions. The staffs are of ebony, draped with cord and tassels, and surmounting the staffs of each is a cross axe in brass—one side half-moon shaped —on both sides of which is the Holy Lamb, delineated in the modern style, cast in relief.

These halberds have from time immemorial been used to indicate the private residence of the mayor of the town during his year of office, if he is resident in the borough, they being placed on each side of the doorway when not used in processions. As no part of the regalia is ever taken outside the boundary of the ancient borough, if the mayor's private residence is not situate within such boundary the halberds are placed, during the daytime, on each side of the outer doorway of the principal entrance to the Town Hall. The halberds are old, the arms on the cross-axe being almost worn away by constant cleaning and age. They were purchased under an order of the Council of the 20th March, 1703, which ran as follows :—" Ordered " that the Bayliffes pay twenty shillings to Edward " Osbaldeston for two new Halberts by him made " for the use of this Corporacon."

The Corporation was possessed of a halberd in 1682, as appears from the extract from the MS. History of the Town, quoted in dealing with the silver maces.

Originally, the bearing of the halberds in the civic processions was supplemented by the mayor being always accompanied by the halberd-bearers whenever he was bent on official business, but the obvious inconvenience of this was no doubt felt in more modern times, and the practice was discontinued in favour of the present arrangement.

In the Corporation disbursement book, which has been previously mentioned, the following items

are extracted relating to repairs to the halberds :—
" (1794-5) Paid for mending Halbarts, 2*s.* 1*d.*;
" (1796-7) Paid for fringe and work at the Hol-
" berts, 12*s.* 1*d.*; (1799-1800) Pd for repairing
" Holberts, 19*s.* 1½*d.*"

Since that time nothing has been done beyond the periodical renewal of the tassels and fringe.

In the mayoral procession depicted in the *History of Preston* (1822), a copy of which is in Dr. Shepherd's library, there are four halberds shown, but an opinion has been previously expressed with regard to this plate, that the sketch was more fanciful than real, and not at all to be relied upon.

With regard to these halberds, it is much to be regretted that the desire to always have the brass heads bright, has resulted in the design being much worn. Many portions of the silver plate, too, have suffered in this way. The halberds might, at all events, be saved from further destructive wear by being coated occasionally with a preparation of clear varnish, which would have the effect of retaining their brightness without the wearing of the parts by constant cleaning.

THE OAR.

The oar is an ancient emblematic privilege, sometimes, though seldom, attaching to the appanage of the mayor of a seaport town. The right, however, was confined to those towns which anciently possessed Admiralty jurisdiction over their particular area. They are to be found of various sizes; for instance, that at Dover (a silver one) is no more than six inches long, contained in a brass case, the top screwing off, exhibiting the oar. These small examples were generally borne by the water-bailiffs, as a token of their authority of arrest, or on board vessels. Larger ones were used as maces, an example of which is also to be

found at Dover, and used there at the Cinque Ports Admiralty Court, held from early times in St. James' Church, Dover. The Corporation of Liverpool have a silver oar, 3ft. 9in. long, purchased in 1785 (in place of an earlier one bought in 1691, and subsequently stolen), which is now carried by the water bailiff, and anciently used by that official as an emblem of his authority over ships and merchandise.

The oar in the possession of the Corporation is not a valuable one in any way. It is of gilt wood, 4ft. long, and is carried in all mayoral processions. Mr. John Addison presented it to the Corporation during his second mayoralty in 1843-4, at a time when the Corporation first had an interest in owning the navigation of the Ribble as one of the old company, having become part proprietors by the purchase of shares in what really originally belonged to themselves. There is no doubt that Preston, like the corporations of other ports, originally had jurisdiction of the river, as many grants in their charters testify, but they allowed their rights to be taken from their hands by a company formed in 1806 for the improvement of the river, overlooking the fact that the port was theirs by actual royal grant. Indeed, from early Saxon times up to the reign of Charles I, Preston was the principal port of the county, as we are informed by an ancient document in the archives, entitled "The "Costumale of Preston." By the omission of the Corporation in 1806, their successors of 1882 had to pay a heavy sum for the re-purchase by them of their ancient river.

Numerous instances exist of ports having an oar forming part of their regalia. At the time of Queen Elizabeth, the Corporation of Boston had in their possession a beautiful silver-gilt oar, 3ft. 3in. long. It is now the property of Earl Brownlow, and is now inscribed :—"This oar, a badge of authority

"used by the ancient Corporation of Boston, was "sold by the modern Town Council in 1836, and "purchased by Francis Thurkill, Esquire, an alder-"man of that borough, by whose widow it was "presented in 1840 to the Earl Brownlow."

II. The Plate.

The plate in the possession of the Corporation comprises the following articles, viz. :—The hanap and cover, the Queen Anne's cup, the silver tankard, the two-handled loving cup, the punch bowl, ladle, &c., the covered ewer, the silver salver (small), the silver salver (large), two silver snuff boxes, pair of candelabra, and other small pieces, which will be mentioned in their order.

THE HANAP AND COVER.

The hanap or cup is the oldest and perhaps the most valuable of all the plate in the possession of the Corporation, not alone for its worth as an example of the silversmith's art of its period, but also for its great elegance of design and superior workmanship. It is of silver gilt. It has a loose cover, surmounted by an open-work obelisk supporting a statuette figure of Hercules bearing a shield, on which is inscribed the date, "A° Domini 1615." The total height of the cup is 20½in., and it weighs 30oz. 16dwt. It bears the Hall marks of the London Assay Office of the year 1615, with the maker's initials, A. B., linked. Although this maker's name is now unknown, the same initials appear on many valuable pieces of plate of the same period, including a somewhat similar hanap in the possession of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, and two cups belonging to the London Mercers' Company. The body of the cup is handsomely chased, and bears on a shield the old arms of Preston—the

Lamb delineated as *statant regardant*—surrounded by the words, "Sigillum Com'une Ville de Preston." The arms of the donor, Henry Banester, are also engraved with the inscription—"Donum Gratula-"torium Henrici Banester de London, Armigeri, "collatum in usu propriu Maioris de Preston in "Andernes ac fratrum vius pro tempore existentum "in perpetuum." (Gratulatory gift of Henry Banester, of London, Esquire, bestowed for the particular use of the Mayor of Preston in Amounderness, and his brethren for the time being and for ever.)

The emblazonment of the arms of Preston on this cup is interesting, as it is the earliest record of any arms, outside the old seal attached to the guild roll of 1459, the only two representations in existence amongst the corporate records of the arms as they were correctly delineated prior to the year 1662, since which latter date the arms have been as now generally used, the chief differences being that, in the old style, the Lamb was *statant* or *passant regardant*, without nimbus, and flanked on each side with the letter P, and another letter P in the middle base. In the modern style, the Lamb is *couchant*, with nimbus, and letters P. P. in the base. The meaning of these celebrated initials will be fully dealt with in dealing with the common seal.

Henry Banester, the donor of this handsome cup, bore a name familiar to students of the early history of Preston. At the time of his presentation he was residing at Hackney. He was born in Preston, both he and his ancestors having been free burgesses of the town, their "county" seat being Banke Hall, Bretherton. He was one of the members of Parliament for Preston from the years 1614 to 1620, and from 1625 to 1627-8. His male line failed in the next generation with Christopher Banester. He left two daughters, his co-heiresses,

from one of whom descends the present Thomas Townley Townley-Parker, Esq., of Cuerden Hall.

The arms of the Banester family, as given by Whittle, in his *History of Preston*, are emblazoned as follows :—" *Argent*, on a chief three fleurs-de-lis, " *or;* underneath in the field two water jugs handled " *or;* crest, an escallop shell, *or*." In Pink and Beaven's *Parliamentary Representation of Lancashire*, the arms are given as " *Argent*, a cross fleury, *sable*." Whittle is, however, confirmed by the arms engraved on the cup being identical with his description.

The Council seem to have been highly gratified at the presentation of the cup, and made elaborate arrangements for its safe and proper keeping, as the following extract from the *White Book of Orders* will show :—

" COUNCIL, 10TH SEPTEMBER, 1616.

" An order about The Gilded Bowle given by He : Banester, of Hackney.

" Whereas Henrie Banester of Hackney in the Countie of Surrey Esquire being borne within this Towne of Preston in Amounderness in the Countie of Lancaster and both he and his Ancestors free burgesses thereof did of his verie love voluntaire affection and kindness towards the said Towne give and bestowe One faire Silver Bowle, with a Cover for the same, dooble guilt, unto and upon the Maior Bailiffes and Burgesses of the said Burrowe and Towne of Preston aforesaid and their Successors for ever, and willed the same to be kepte and remaine in the custodie and possession of the said Maior of the said Burrowe and Towne of Preston aforesaid for the tyme beinge and his Successors the Maior of the said Burrowe and Towne for ever. Y^t is now therefore ordered sett downe concluded and fullie agreed upon by Richard Blundell, gentleman, now Maior of the said Burrowe and Towne of Preston, James Wall and Thomas Graystock nowe Bailives of the said Burrowe and Towne of Preston aforesaid and by and with a full and generall assente consente and agreemente of all and everie the Aldermen Capitall Burgesses and brethren, beinge the Comon Counsell of the said Burrowe and Towne that the said Bowle and cover thereof together with the Boxe or Case wherein the same is now kepte shall from tyme to tyme and att all tymes hereafter remaine abyde contynue and bee kepte in the handes custodie and possession of

the Maior of the said Burrowe and Towne of Preston in Amounderness aforesaid for the tyme beinge and his successors the Maior of the said Towne of Preston for tyme being for ever, and to be by such said Maior used, occupyed, and disposed of att his free will and pleasure dureinge the tyme of such said Maior his Maroltie and noe longer, and to bee delivered from one Maior of the said Towne of Preston to another his next successor at such daie and tyme as such said Maior of the said Towne of Preston for the tyme being shall enter into and take upon him the place and office of Maior within the said Towne, and have the custodie, charge, governmt of such evidences and other things as are and have beene accustomed to be kept and remaine in the custodie and keeping of the said Maior for the tyme beinge during his maroltie or tyme of bearinge office of Maior within the same Towne, and that the same Bowl, Cover, and Case shalbe yeerlie putt and enterred in the Indentures which are yearlie made between the Maiors of the said Towne for the more safe keepinge of the books of record, evidences, writings, and other things belonginge to the same towne."

It is to be regretted that the "Indentures" yearly entered into do not now exist, as no doubt they would throw much light on the early possessions of the Corporate body.

The cup was not the only mark of the regard felt by Mr. Henry Banester for his native town, for in the *White Book of Orders*, under date 21st September, 1637, is recorded a gift of £400 from him to the Corporation through Mr. William Sudell, the then mayor. Mr. Sudell reported that he had spent of this sum £399 7*s*. (no record is made in what way, however), and he had handed the balance of 13*s*. to his successor in office. Probably the mayor had disbursed the money in attempting to obtain a renewal of the great charter of Elizabeth, granted in 1566, as the Corporation were exceedingly anxious to obtain, by renewal, a charter from Charles I, their efforts being constant and without break, especially during the times between 1629 and 1640, when that Sovereign had persistently refused to assemble Parliament. No doubt the fear of their rights and ancient privileges being

withdrawn from them in such uncertain times induced the Corporation to strenuously seek to obtain official aid in their desire, and for that purpose money was necessary. During those times, however, the Corporation exchequer was never in a satisfactory state, and they were compelled to borrow money from divers persons towards the expenses of endeavouring to get a renewal of their charter, and frequent minutes occur in the Council book on this subject. For instance, on the 9th May, 1635, the names of those are recorded who had lent money, and the amount, for this object. Later on appears the record that the sum of £15 15*s.* 5*d.* was "disbursed in our journey to London, "and at London" about "renewing the Towne's "charter," and the balance (£73 4*s.* 6*d.*) of the sum raised was handed over to the mayor. It is highly probable that the gift of Mr. Henry Banester was spent in this way; but, notwithstanding their earnest efforts, the Corporation failed in their endeavours, and did not receive a renewal of their charter until Charles II granted one in 1662-3.

To revert, however, to the handsome cup presented by Mr. Henry Banester; its general design, with its loose cover and steeple ornament, was much in vogue between 1611 and 1628. It may be mentioned that there is a cup of similar design in St. John's College, Cambridge, it having a cover which is, like the Banester cup, surmounted by a statuette of Hercules, and dated 1615. This cup was exhibited in the special Exhibition of Works of Art, held at South Kensington, in 1862. Besides the above, examples (though few) of this distinctive type are to be found (chiefly manufactured between the dates before mentioned) in old church plate; for example, at Warrington; St. Michael's Bongate, Appleby; St. Mary's, Ambleside; Holme Cultram, and Westward; but these are all without the

statuette on the top of the open obelisk work. Beyond the cup in St. John's College, the Preston cup seems to be the only one in existence of the complete design, and its rareness has always enhanced its value in the eyes of those who have studied the ancient plate handed down to us and preserved in our churches, colleges, and by corporate bodies.

THE SILVER TANKARD.

At a meeting of the Council, held on the 8th January, 1702, it was ordered:—"That a Silver "Tankard be bought at ye Towne's charge and "ye old money belonging to ye Towne be made use "of for the ye purpose."

The "old money" referred to was supposed to represent the value of £56 4*s.* 10½*d.*, but as the silver was light and other of the money doubtful, it was kept apart and allowed to accumulate into the sum mentioned, when, in view of the celebration of the guild merchant of 1702, the Corporation decided to utilise the money to purchase a tankard. The tankard was accordingly bought. It bears the stamps of the London Assay Office (the figure of Britannia and lion's head erased), the maker's initials, TI., and the date stamp, 1702-3 (Anne.) The maker was Robert Timbrell, who manufactured several articles for the London City Companies; and it was compulsory for the maker to stamp on his plate the first two letters of his surname. The tankard is a massive piece of plate, of bold and solid appearance, weighing 52 oz. 14dwts. On its front is engraved the arms of the town, in the modern style. It has a hinged cover, which makes it inconvenient for drinking purposes, and it is, therefore, seldom used. There is a circle of oak placed on the outside of the bottom, with the

apparent object of protection. This oak bottom is very rudely fixed, being merely jammed in, and must have been inserted since its manufacture.

This tankard is a valuable piece of plate, inasmuch as it is an example of what is known as the "Britannia period." It has been erroneously stated that this specimen was merely of white metal, as the familiar marks of the lion passant and the leopard's head are absent, and that the marks of Britannia and the lion's head erased indicated an inferior metal.

The Corporation of the time, however, did not make a good bargain with the silversmith, for their money represented £56 4*s.* 10½*d.*, although some was thin and some doubtful. At the period silver was worth 5*s.* 2*d.* per ounce troy, and the weight of the tankard made in exchange is not quite 53oz. Their successors have, however, obtained a bargain, which they will, no doubt, cherish with jealous care.

THE QUEEN ANNE CUP.

The Queen Anne cup or glass, so named from its being made and presented in the reign of Queen Anne, is a fine and early example of cut and engraved glass. Its chief value, however, lies in its rare and peculiar form. It is literally a "tumbler," the base of the glass being a round ball, so that it cannot be placed upright. It is probably the only remaining specimen in England, and its unique form has caused many antiquarians to doubt whether it was originally in its present form, or acquired it through breakage. If the cup be carefully examined, however, no doubt will be entertained that it is the peculiar form of drinking vessel which was designated a tumble, and which was used when "draughts long and deep" were the rule, and "heel-taps" the exception.

A movable stand of silver gilt, fitted by means of an antique thumb screw, is attached to the glass, and on the base of this stand is engraved the arms, with mantling, of the house of Fleetwood, with their motto, "Homo homini lupus" (Man is a wolf to man), and the inscription, "Prosperity "to the Queen, the Church of England, and the "Corporation of Preston."

Although the gift is not recorded amongst the proceedings of the Corporation, there is no doubt that it was presented by Mr. Henry Fleetwood, who represented Preston in Parliament from 1708 to 1722. The probability is that he presented the cup in commemoration of his election. He was a candidate at the previous election, in 1696, but was defeated by six votes. He was the eldest son of Arthur Fleetwood, of Westminster, and inherited an estate in Penwortham, under a settlement dated 25th June, 1676, by Edmund Fleetwood, who also sat for Preston in 1660 and 1685, and who died on the 13th April, 1704. Mr. Henry Fleetwood, the donor of the cup, died 22nd May, 1746, aged 84, and was the last male heir of this branch of the family. His only sister married Walter Chetwynd, Esq. The Fleetwoods for generations resided in Penwortham, and were intimately interested with the municipal history of Preston.

There are no Hall marks on the base of the cup which would give a clue to the date of manufacture, except the maker's mark, SH., with three stars below, in a shield. This is sufficient, however, to indicate that it was manufactured by Alice Sheen, who was entered in the books of the Goldsmiths' Company in 1700. It was compulsory at that time, and up to 1720, for makers to mark on plate manufactured by them the first two letters of their surname, and it so happens that in the whole of

the Goldsmiths' books no manufacturer's name is entered with the two letters SH. except Alice Sheen; hence the assumption is that this cup was manufactured by her. In her time she had a great reputation as a maker of fancy gold and silver articles, and was one of the leading manufacturers of London.

Mr. Henry Fleetwood, the donor of this unique cup, was Mayor of Walton-le-Dale in 1705-6. In the *White Book of Orders*, page 593, is recorded the fact of Mr. Henry Fleetwood being admitted as a freeman of the borough, the following being a copy of the entry:—"Tempore Edmundi Asheton "gen. Majoris Henricus Fleetwood de Penwortham "admissus est y Rotulam cur decimo quarto die "September Anno R. Georgii Mag. Brit. et primo "Anno D. 1714."

The grant of the rare privilege of being admitted to the freedom of the borough between the celebration of guilds it will be seen was subsequent to the gift of the cup, the latter being some time during the reign of Queen Anne (1702-14), the freedom being conferred in the next reign. Thus the Corporation of those days returned their acknowledgments by conferring upon the donor the highest honour they could bestow; proving that they appreciated the extremely handsome and unique form by which the name of Henry Fleetwood was to be perpetually connected with the town.

Too great care cannot be taken of this cup, and it is to be hoped that the practice of using it for the handing round of hot spiced wine to the guests resorting with the mayor to divine service will be discontinued, for an accidental knock or fall would (unlike the silver cups) cause irreparable damage, and is a risk which ought not to be run on every small civic occasion.

THE LOVING CUP OR GOBLET.

The two-handled loving cup or goblet is a favourite piece of plate belonging to the Corporation: in point of age being the second drinking vessel they possess. It is of silver, quite plain, free from any of the embossed work so frequently seen on two-handled goblets, and is capable of holding about a quart. It weighs 13oz. An inscription engraved round the cup records, "Ex "dono Rad'i Longworth gen. Ric'o Hynde gen. "Majori burg. sive Ville de Preston et successoribus "suis in perpetuum A.D. 1671." (Gift from Radus Longworth, gentleman, to Richard Hynde, gentleman, Mayor of the borough of Preston, and his successors in perpetuity.)

No record exists in the Council books of its presentation, but the donor was a physician practising in Preston, and was a member of the Council. He was one of the foreign burgesses inscribed on the guild roll of 1672. Beyond this nothing is now known of him, but, as seen, he was entered on the freemen's roll, as a grateful acknowledgment, probably, of his gift.

Mr. Richard Hynde, whose name has been perpetuated by the inscription on the cup, was a member of the Council for only six years. He was elected a Common Councilman on the 21st July, 1669, an Alderman or Bencher on the 26th September, 1669, and Mayor in 1671-2. He died in 1675.

The cup is perhaps really the oldest piece of silver in the possession of the Corporation, it having been manufactured almost a hundred years before its presentation to them, the Hall marks indicating the London Assay Office stamp for the year 1583, being one of the earliest examples of its kind in existence, and certainly the oldest piece of non-ecclesiastical

plate which the writer has come across in Lancashire, a county which is rich indeed in ancient silver vessels, especially in the chests of our old parish churches.

This cup, invaluable as it is from its age and local associations, is another example of indiscriminate cleaning. All silver, and especially the priceless old plate that has been handed down to us through long generations, is better cleaned with simple rubbing of a fine wash-leather. No metal polish or other irritable ingredient should be used to them, and it is to be hoped that the Corporation will issue strict orders that all the silver in their possession shall be cleaned as seldom as possible, and then only be subject to the rubbing process indicated.

One interesting record of this cup is, that up to the year 1858, it and the silver tankard were lent on every occasion of the funeral of a freeman, but for what reason it is impossible to say.

THE PUNCH BOWL, &c.

This massive set, consisting of a silver punch bowl, ladle, and wine strainer, were, as the inscription engraved round the bottom of the bowl records, "The Gift of the Rt. Honble. Edward, Earle of "Derby, 24th August, 1742."

On one side of the bowl are engraved the arms, with supporters, motto, crest, and mantling, of the Earl of Derby, and on the other side the arms of Preston. Round the latter are the words, "Preston "in Amundernesse, Anno Domini 1742." The Hall marks indicate that the plate was manufactured in 1741, bearing the London Assay Office letters of that year, and was probably made by Elizabeth Godfrey, a leading ecclesiastical silversmith of that period. The ladle bears the crest of the house of Stanley, but the strainer is uninscribed, though

undoubtedly of the same manufacture. This punch bowl, which is impressive and handsome, is 44 inches in circumference, having a diameter of 14 inches, and weighs no less than 127 oz. 4 dwts. It has always been used at Corporation banquets, or, to use the ancient term, "meals of state," and has supplied many a bumper, in which has been drunk the quaintly expressive old toast peculiar to Preston, in the form of a couplet :—

"Prosperation
To the Corporation."

This toast still survives, and is invariably placed at the bottom of the toast lists at all Corporation dinners.

The donor of this portion of the Corporation plate, Edward, Earl of Derby, lived in Preston, and did his duty as a citizen in going through all the grades of office in the Corporation. He was one of the bailiffs in 1737, and was subsequently elected alderman. He held the office of mayor in 1731, and was member for the county 1727-36. He was a representative of a younger branch of the family, being descended from Sir James Stanley, brother of Thomas, second Earl. He was an alderman at the date of his succession as eleventh Earl of Derby, in 1736, on the failure of the elder line, and for a few years after. He died 24th February, 1776, aged 86.

The following extracts from the *White Book* are interesting, as shewing the advancement in the different grades of Corporate office :—

"19th October, 1730. Y^t is unanimously agreed and ordered that Sir Edward Stanley, Barrt., be and he is hereby elected and chosen to make up the number of this Council five and twenty in the room and place of Joseph Curtis, gent. decd., late one of the Aldermen of this Corporation.

"Memdm. Sr Edwd. Stanley came into
Council and took the oath."

"19th October, 1730. It is agreed and ordered that Sr Edwd. Stanley Barrt. be and he is hereby elected and chosen Alderman and Bencher of this Corporacon in the room and place of Joseph Curtis gentleman decd. late one of the Aldermen of the said Corporacon.

"19th October, 1730. Sr Edwd. Stanley in Council took the oath of an Alderman."

"2nd September, 1740. Whereas the right Honorable Edward Earl of Derby one of the Aldermen of this Burrough hath lately by his letter to Mr. Mayor signifyed his pleasure and desire to be discharged from the said office of Alderman which the distance he now lives from Preston will not permit him to discharge. And on reading His Lordships letter to such effect It is agreed and so ordered that the said Edward. Earl of Derby, be and he is hereby at his Lordship's desire discharged from the said office and place of Alderman and from all farther attendance relating thereto, and that another fit and proper person be elected in his stead."

Two years after his lordship resigned, the guild of 1742 was celebrated, and he took the opportunity of presenting the bowl, &c., the date it bears being the first day of the celebration, and it is rather curious that this connection was not recorded on the plate. His lordship had previously, when Sir Edward Stanley, made a gift to the Corporation, having, in 1729, presented a portrait in oil of George II, which is now placed in the Museum.

The house of Stanley has for ages been closely associated, by ties of property or residence, with the history of the town, members of the house being among the most distinguished of in-burgesses of the guild, or freemen. It was therefore natural that the present Earl of Derby, then Colonel the Right Hon. Sir F. A. Stanley, M.P., on his special elevation to the peerage, in the lifetime of the late Lord Derby, took his title as "Lord Stanley of Preston," and this event was recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on the 26th August, 1886, in the following terms :—

"The Right Worshipful the Mayor having announced to the Council that Colonel the Right Honorable Sir Frederick A. Stanley, G.C.B., on whom Her Majesty had graciously conferred a peerage, had been pleased to distinguish the Town by taking his title therefrom, and becoming "Lord Stanley of Preston," it was moved by the Right Worshipful the Mayor [Mr. Alderman Benjamin Walmsley], seconded by Mr. Ald. Hibbert, and Resolved Unanimously: 'That the Council desires, on behalf of the Inhabitants, to express high appreciation of the honor conferred upon the Borough by Colonel the Right Honorable Sir Frederick Arthur Stanley electing, on his elevation to the peerage, to take his Title from the Town, and to be known as Lord Stanley of Preston, whereby the old and intimate connection which has existed between this Borough and the House of Stanley is most fittingly recognised and recorded. Resolved that the Mayor be requested on behalf of the Council to convey the foregoing resolution to the Right Honorable Lord Stanley of Preston.'"

This record of gratification was accordingly communicated to his lordship, and as the result there was recorded at the Council meeting on the 30th September, 1886, what follows:—

"Read the following letter from the Right Hon. Lord Stanley of Preston, in acknowledgment of the resolution of the Council of the 26th August, 1886:—

"'5, Portland Place, August 29th, 1886.

"'My Dear Mr. Mayor,

"'It has been a sincere pleasure to me to receive your kind letter, enclosing the resolution passed by the Council of the Borough of Preston on the 26th inst. I am proud to think that the whole of my public life has been passed in close connection with the interests of Preston and its neighbourhood, and I am deeply grateful for the honour which your Council have conferred upon me by their expression of goodwill on the occasion of my elevation to the House of Lords. I am truly glad to think that my new name may help to perpetuate and keep alive the memory of the old and intimate bonds of union which have existed between your borough and the family of which I am a member, and it is my earnest hope that these mutual feelings of regard may ever be firmly maintained and cherished.

"'With my warmest thanks to yourself and to your Council,

"'I remain, dear Mr. Mayor,

"'Yours very truly,

"'STANLEY OF PRESTON.'

"Resolved, that the letter be recorded on the minutes of the Council."

It is to be desired that the earnest hope expressed by his lordship in the last paragraph of his letter may be fulfilled. The Stanleys were always, throughout the history of Preston, to be found taking their share in the government of the borough, especially when the family, or town house of the Earls of Derby was located in Preston, and their fellow townsmen did all in their power to render them the respect and deference due to their exalted position.

It will only be necessary, in support of this assertion, to quote one record from the Council Book, at a meeting of the Corporation held on the 8th August, 1747, from amongst the many items respecting the family of Stanley, which frequently occur in the old records :—

"Mr. Mayor at this meeting represented to the Council that Lord Strange (son of Lord Derby) having lately brought his lady to town, he thought it requisite that some public regard and respect should be shown to her by the Corporacon. But as to the manner of doing it he desired the sence and thoughts of the Council. And at the same time Recommended the complimenting of her Ladyship with a Public Ball, which was unanimously agreed to. And Mr. Mayor is desired to take the trouble of Ordering and Conducting the same in such manner as he thinks fit. And it is Ordered that the expence thereof be defrayed out of the Revenue of the Corporacon."

The ball subsequently held in honour of the occasion was worthy of the ancient town and the noble family connected with it, Preston being at that time the centre of the fashionable town life of Lancashire, the ceremonial glory of which is still retained in some measure by the recurring celebrations of the guild, when all classes of English life are periodically united to perpetuate a remnant of the ancient and honourable history of the borough.

THE COVERED EWER.

This piece of plate has been so variously misnamed by different historians and compilers of inventories that many have thought three or four such existed. It has alternately been styled "claret "jug," "coffee pot," "chocolate pot," and other titles, but it is undoubtedly what is known as a covered ewer of the early eighteenth century manufacture. It is of silver, weighing 37oz. 6dwts., and bears an inscription on the front as follows:—
"The gift of Richard Atherton, Esquire, of Ather-
"ton, to the Corporation of Preston, 1722."

The arms of the town are also engraved thereon, in a peculiar and unusual manner, the Lamb being delineated as *couchant regardant.* The arms of the donor are also engraved, being "*Gules*, three sparrow hawks, *argent*," impaled with the ffaringtons of Worden.

The presentation of this cup was during the year of the celebration of the guild merchant of 1722, and probably preceded it; for had the gift been subsequent to the guild, it may reasonably be assumed that some indication would have been made in the inscription on the ewer. It, however, really had no connection with the guild—for the donor was only indirectly interested in Preston—but formed part of the gifts of family plate amongst a few public bodies. A presentation of plate was also made by the donor to the Corporation of Liverpool at the same time. The ewer presented to Preston was, however, not then an old piece of silver, it bearing the London Assay Office Hall marks of the year 1711, and the maker's initials, N.A., in a heart-shaped shield.

The value of this ewer is greater from the fact of its being (like the silver tankard) manufactured during the "Britannia period."

Local historians have got grievously wrong as to the Atherton family's connection with Preston. The guild mayor of 1782 bore the same name—Richard Atherton—as the donor of the cup, but he was not connected with the same family. The donor of the cup was the representative of the Athertons of Atherton Hall, Lancashire. He was a descendant of Sir William de Atherton, member of Parliament for the county in 1381, who traced his descent from Robert de Atherton, who, in the reign of King John, held the manor of Atherton under the Botelers, Barons of Warrington. Members of the family frequently appear as representatives of the county in Parliament.

The father of the donor of the ewer, whose name was also Richard, was Mayor of Liverpool in 1684, knighted 22nd June, 1684, and was M.P. for Liverpool from 1676-7 till his death in 1686. His son Richard, the donor, was the last of his race. He married Elizabeth, daughter of William ffarington, of Worden Hall, and died in 1726, four years after the presentation of the ewer, leaving an only daughter (Elizabeth), who was afterwards married to Robert Gwillyn, who assumed his wife's surname on inheriting the Atherton estate. He died in 1783, leaving a son, Legh Atherton (who died in 1789 without issue), and three daughters, his eventual co-heiresses, viz.:—(1) Henrietta, wife of Thomas, second Lord Lilford; (2) Elizabeth, married to George Keck, of Bank Hall, Bretherton, but died without issue; (3) Hester, who married the Rev. Jas. Hornby, rector of Winwick, whose line has failed. Thomas Lyttleton, fourth Lord Lilford, the grandson of the eldest daughter, is now sole representative of the Athertons.

His lordship was fittingly one of the patrons of the guild of 1882, and personally took part in the ceremonials and festivities of the celebration,

though unaware of his connection, through an ancestor's gift of the covered ewer, with the ancient town.

THE SILVER SALVER.

The silver salver or tray bears no inscription. It is 18 inches in diameter, and of a good and well-executed design of chased edge, above which is a raised fluted rim. It weighs 71 oz. 14 dwts. The Hall marks on the salver indicate that it was manufactured during the year 1802-3; and in the *Book of Corporation Disbursements* — which commences May, 1784, and ends just after the guild of 1802, there appears in the portion of the book detailing the disbursements from May, 1802, the following item:—"Item p^d^ Mr. Anderson's Bill for "a Silver Waiter, £30 9*s.* 11*d.*"

This salver may therefore be taken to be the one purchased by the Corporation in 1802, probably with a view to the celebration of the guild merchant of that year.

It is worthy of note that in the Council book, under date the 22nd March, 1696, the Council requested Mr. Alderman Sudell, when he next visited London, "to buy a good large silver salver for the "use of the town," but whether such was purchased or not there is no record. If so, it does not now form part of the plate in the possession of the Corporation.

THE "BURROW" SALVER.

This handsome salver was presented by Mr. Alderman James Burrow, in commemoration of the unique honour he had of being three times mayor of the borough in successive years. At no period during its lengthy civic history has any gentleman served the office for three years in succession, with the exception of Mr. Burrow. For under the

statute of 9 Anne, c. 20, sec. 8, there is express provision (long since repealed) which renders any mayor incapable of being re-elected to the same office for the year immediately ensuing. In those days the principle adopted was that which obtains in the Corporation of London—the mayoral chair was filled by the aldermen in succession, who in their day had been common councilmen and previously bailiffs. As there were only eight aldermen, it became sometimes necessary to re-elect one who had passed the chair, and this usually fell to the senior ex-mayor. Since the Municipal Act of 1835, there have only been two instances of a mayor holding office two years in succession, viz., Miles Myres, in 1871-2 and 1872-3, and John Forshaw, in 1883-4 and 1884-5. The honour conferred on Mr. Burrow, therefore, prompted him to leave some memorial behind him of the unique circumstance in the history of the town, and he commissioned Messrs. Elkington to manufacture the very massive and handsome salver, which he informally presented to the Corporation, and which bears an appropriate inscription recording the gift.

SNUFF BOXES.

The snuff boxes are a pair, alike in every detail. They are of silver, and beautifully chased with a diamond design, and the insides are gilt. On the top of each lid is a plain oval, wherein are engraved the arms of the town (the Lamb being depicted as *couchant gardant)*, ornamented with representation of mace, sword, and cross axes, and inside the lids are inscriptions, the one "The gift of Mr. Richard "Palmer, Town Clerk of Preston, 1814," and the other "The gift of Mr. John Green, Treasurer of "the Corporation, 1814." The gifts are recorded in the Council book, at a meeting held on the 23rd June, 1814, as follows :—

"At this Meeting, Mr. Green, the Treasurer, and Mr. Palmer, the Town Clerk of this Corporation, each presented the Council with a very elegant snuff box, accompanied with an appropriate speech upon the occasion, which Mr. Mayor received in the name of the Corporation, and returned their acknowledgments in like manner. Messrs. Mounsey and Ambler very generously offered to keep the above snuff boxes properly supplied with snuff to suit the taste of the Corporate Body which offers were also accepted and due Thanks were returned to them by Mr. Mayor."

How long these gentlemen continued to keep the boxes "properly supplied" it is difficult to say. At all events it is now by custom become the duty of the Borough Treasurer, cheerfully performed, to do so; and no doubt the snuff "suits the taste of the "Corporate Body," as the boxes may be seen being passed round that august assembly at each meeting of the Council.

Mr. Palmer was appointed Town Clerk on the 1st October, 1801, on Mr. Nicholas Gunshaw's resignation, he having been elected an alderman, and he retained office for the lengthy period of over 50 years, until his death, on the 6th December, 1852. He was clerk of the guilds merchant of 1802, 1822, and 1842, the longest period of official connection on record in Preston.

Mr. Green was appointed Corporation steward on the 30th April, 1792, which office he resigned on the 25th June, 1824, having filled the office for the long term of thirty-one years. He was "Guild "Treasurer" for the guild merchant of 1802 and 1822. On his resignation he was allowed by the Council £20 per annum "as a token of respect and "approbation of his past services." The Corporation, however, on the 5th February, 1836, ordered the Town Clerk to take counsel's opinion "as to "the obligation of the Council to continue the "pension of £20 to Mr. John Green, late steward," and on the 5th February the Town Clerk reported to the Council that the Recorder's opinion had been

taken upon the matter, and after considering it, it was resolved that the pension should be continued. Mr. Green died in October of the same year.

CANDLESTICKS, ETC.

Amongst the plate are: A pair of candlesticks of excellent workmanship, of silver, having branches of three lights each, with the arms of the town engraved in different parts thereon. The lamb on the arms is placed in the uncommon position of *couchant gardant.* These candlesticks are seldom used, sometimes gracing the mayor's table at Corporation banquets. A pair of silver-plated candle snuffers and trays, and four silver labels and chains for decanters. From the Hall marks on the candlesticks, it appears that they were manufactured in 1788-9, having the date mark of the Birmingham Assay Office of that year; but there is no entry in the Corporation account book of their having been paid for out of the corporate funds. The presumption, therefore, is that they were presented, though there is no record of any such gift.

It is a tradition that these ornamental pieces of silver are only a fragment of the valuable candelabra plate once possessed by the Corporation—the mass of which were lost through the unwise system, now discontinued, of successive mayors having possession of the corporate plate at their own residences during their term of office. However that may be, they were lost prior to 1863, when Mr. Samuel Smith, the then mayor, compiled an inventory of the plate. Still, from this inventory, which is signed by the mayor, it appears that the following articles, then in existence, do not form part of the present plate, viz.:—Two silver labels for decanters (the inventory mentions six, but four only being now in existence); one silver-topped

corkscrew; seven dozen and ten silver-plated forks; five dozen and nine ivory-hafted knives in mahogany box.

MAYOR'S SEAL.

The mayor's seal is a small modern one, in the form of a pendant to a watch chain, in which way it is usually carried by successive mayors. It is used for the purpose of attaching to any document of a semi-official character, such, for instance, as the attestation of any foreign document or deed; the laws of some foreign countries providing that the signatures to any document which may be received in the courts of law shall be attested by the mayor of the place in which the signatories reside. As the common seal cannot be used without the express authority by resolution of the Town Council, this small seal is manifestly of great advantage and convenience. The seal is a gold one, the bloodstone set therein having engraved on it a copy of the arms as now in use, surrounding which are the words, "Sig. Com. Villæ "de Preston."

The mayor's seal was informally presented by the late Charles Roger Jacson, Esq., D.L., of Barton Hall, during his mayoralty in the year 1865-6. This was apparently not the first small seal used by mayors, for at a meeting of the Council, held on the 21st March, 1697, it was ordered that there be bought, "for the use of "Mr. Mayor of this Towne and his successors, "a pocket seal engraven with the Holy Lamb, "with a little Ivory handle." Whether it was bought or not is not recorded; at all events, this seal does not exist now. Mr. Jacson informed the writer that his seal was supplied by a Preston jeweller to his order, he having felt the need of such, and when he retired from office he left it for his successors.

THE NEWSHAM PLATE.

Included in the very handsome bequest of the late Mr. Richard Newsham's valuable collection of paintings, bronzes, and china to the Corporation, are two cups; one silver gilt, with embossed cupids and vines, and the other a silver wager cup, designed as a figure in female dress, holding overhead a swinging pail. The whole of the bequest was, however, to form a nucleus of a fine art collection. The cups have not been placed with the other corporate plate, but find a home in the new Free Library, Museum, and Art Gallery. At one time it was thought that these two pieces of silver should be separated from the rest of the bequest, but the terms of Mr. Newsham's will prevented that.

THE COMMON SEAL.

The common seal of Preston is of silver, inserted in a handle of oak. It is never attached to any document, except the Council Book, without the express authority of the Council, by resolution. The date of its manufacture is uncertain. The earliest document to which a Preston common seal is attached appears to be the guild roll of 1602, and its style of make would correspond with that period, the design being carved out so as to form the matrix. It is two inches in diameter, and quite round, with a centre shield containing the Holy Lamb bearing a flag, with the letters P.P. in the base. Outside the shield is inscribed, in Roman characters, "Sigillum Comune Villæ de Preston" (The common seal of the town of Preston). The Lamb is depicted as *statant regardant.*

By their charters it is within the power of the Corporation to change their seals at their pleasure, as the following extract will show:—(Charter

36 Charles II) "And that the said Mayor, Alder-"men, and Burgesses of the said borough and "their successors have and shall have one common "seal for the doing and performing of all their "causes and business whatsoever. And *it shall "and may be lawful for them and their successors "to change, alter, or make anew the same seal.*" The foregoing is from a translation ordered to be made by the Corporation, on the 9th June, 1710, and entered in the Guild Book of 1702. The words in *italics* are thus translated by Lingard:—"That it "be and shall be fully lawful for them and their "successors to break that seal at their pleasure, to "change it, and make it anew." The former translation, however, is the more literal one, and has besides the official sanction. The same words occur in the charter granted in 1566, by Queen Elizabeth.

The Corporation have only once exercised the power of altering their seal: for the worse, it is thought by many, who desire that the present Corporation would revert to the ancient style.

below Bidston Hill, joins the Birket, and turning sharply eastwards formed the estuary of Wallasey Pool, now the Great Float of Birkenhead Docks. From the same range, which is the watershed of this part of Wirral, issue several other small brooks, which flow southward and south-east to Bromborough Pool.

POSITION: TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GEOLOGICAL.

The geological formation in this township is of peculiar interest, and inasmuch as it is connected with the antiquities of the place, it is well to notice it shortly. Storeton Hill, which lies on its western side, has been formed by some great convulsion, which has faulted the overlying strata of new red sandstone, and has forced up from the lower and earlier sandstone a long ridge of fine white stone, forming the rocky summit ridge, in which are excavated the great quarries of Storeton. The waters and ice of the glacial period have eroded the rocks, and have spread the whiter sandy soil over the lower levels; thus the soil of Storeton, for the most part, differs from that of the greater part of Wirral, which is chiefly a strong clay. The antiquarian consideration connected with these formations is, that the stone from Storeton is of a character differing from any other in the district, and therefore distinguishable in works of antiquity, and also that the light and easily-worked soil seems, from indications to be noticed, to have attracted, in very primitive times, a settlement of early cultivators, who have left slight but unmistakeable traces in the township.

Another feature, which has given to Storeton a special character, is its commanding site, and its post upon the landward routes that connect the Mersey and the Dee. From the hill, the chief part of the estuary of the Mersey is in full view; to the

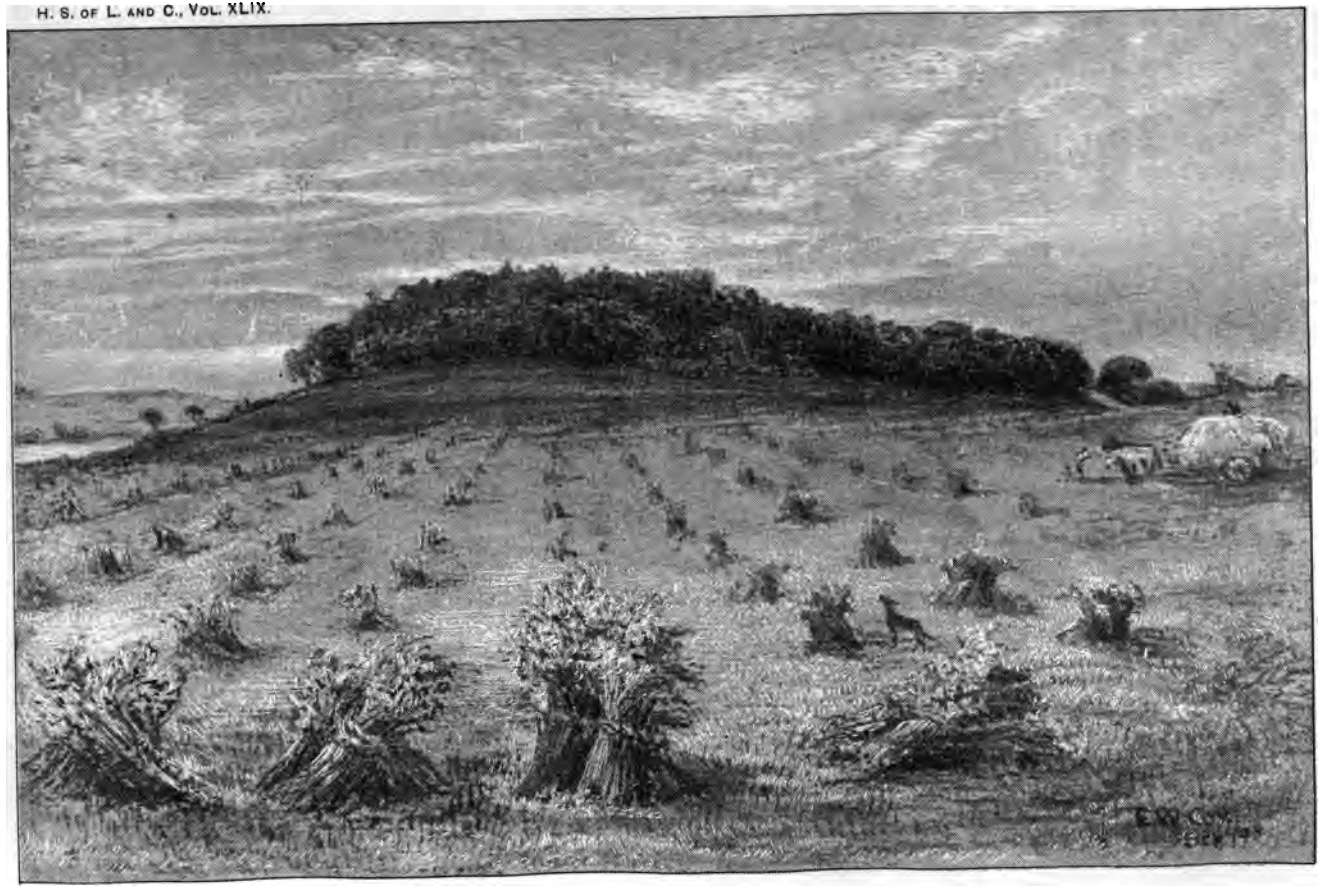
south, the castles of Beeston and Halton; to the north, the coast of Wirral and the distant horizon of the Irish Sea; west and south-west, the range of hills guarding the Vale of Clwyd, and the nearer and lower ranges of Flintshire; and in the extreme distance, the summits of the Snowdonian range. Wirral lies, a detached strip, between the sea coasts of the great Saxon kingdom of Mercia and the marches of Wales: the last refuge of the Britons, who, though often overrun by invasions, have till our own time maintained the identity of their race. From Storeton we can see the Bwlch Agrikle over which Julius Agricola marched his legions to subjugate Anglesea; also that pass below the entrenched Moel Fenlli, from which Germanus drove back the Pictish invasion by the "Hallelujah" victory; and the passes over which King Edwin marched his Saxons to harry the Britons, and Flint; whence Edward I began his invasion of Wales. Yet Wirral, standing detached between its two estuaries, has been the scene of no great events; Chester, the fortress, controlled it so completely, that the tides of war and invasion have passed it by, and the masters of Chester have held Wirral comparatively secure and free, even though exposed on all sides to invasion from the sea.

On the high lands Storeton stands like a watch-tower; and quiet and secluded as it now is in its rural solitude, this lofty position has determined its history and influenced its antiquities. Danger of invasion of Wirral was only to be feared from the sea, and the wise choice usually shown in the selection of ancient sites is apparent here. While the high ground overlooks widely every approach from the coast, it is sufficiently withdrawn from the sea and rivers to admit of safe inland roads across the peninsula, and to give time for withdrawal towards the fortress of Chester in times of urgent peril.

Wirral, therefore, has no trace of important defences, the only considerable ones being the Norman castle of Shotwick, and a burgh at Thurstaston, earlier traces being few and uncertain. The triple line of entrenched hills along the Welsh coast and valleys were the true bulwark that checked the wave of Pictish and Saxon invasions; and within sight from Storeton are the lands where began the great lines of demarcation between Saxon and Briton, defined by Offa's dyke and Watt's dyke, with their intermediate neutral ground.

ANCIENT ROADS.

From Storeton, therefore, radiates a great network of ancient roads; not only across the peninsula between the ferry of Birkenhead to the ancient point of embarkation at Hoylake, but to every surrounding village there still is an old road of communication, and others now closed or neglected are still to be traced. Many of these are now mere field-tracks or pathways, some of them, notably that to Prenton Hall and a fragment of one called Kirkup Lane, leading originally from Storeton to Bebington and Bromborough Pool, still show the central rib made of large blocks of stone, laid in the Roman manner, as a trackway for pack-horses. To these roads a Roman origin has been attributed by Mr. Thompson Watkin and others, but they are almost certainly mediæval, as the roads themselves have no indication of the solid and permanent construction seen in Roman work. Other roads have had a narrow central track of cobble-stone pavement, now chiefly broken up or covered, the width being too small for any modern vehicle; these have formed pack-horse roads of later work. Examples are to be seen in an ancient fragment leading from Spital, and in others that pass by Thingwall and Landican and Frankby, from the western side of the township.



TERRACED HILL NORTH STORETON

Up to the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries Storeton contained several inns for the entertainment of wayfarers. In the rear of one cottage, lately rebuilt, was to be found the capacious arched cellar cut in the rock, and by another, the ranges of stabling for pack-horses, now ruinous and disused. Many of the roads seem to date from an extreme antiquity, and there are few villages which can show so many fragments of them in their primitive condition, though now overgrown with thickets of willow and briar, rose, bramble, and gorse, the haunt of gipsies and the delight of artists.

Their value, as evidences of the importance of Storeton as a strategic, if not a defensive centre, is however rather to be dwelt upon in the study of Storeton's antiquities. It will be shewn that the Romans had access to Storeton, but among these many ancient routes none can be certainly distinguished as of their construction. It can only be suggested that faint traces running below the south-western crest of the hill, and in many places now obliterated, seem to connect, by their fragments, the point at Oxton, in Arno vale, where Roman coins were found, with other traces that tend, in a fairly straight direction, towards Willaston and Chester, their traces being lost chiefly in the lower grounds in modern roads beyond that point.

EARLIEST OCCUPANTS.

But earlier occupation than the Roman is discernible in the township. On the western, southern, and parts of the eastern slopes of the eastern hill, are to be seen long terrace-like ridges, now mostly ploughed down by modern cultivation to mere horizontal undulations, which stretch below both sides, beneath the quarried crest, and coil round the southern end where it falls into the plateau. On this latter side four such terraces, and possibly a

fifth, are easily distinguished; on the west side, three; and just without the township, in Higher Bebington, are four more, but much broken by the houses and crofts of the village. These lines are not natural formations, but the remnants of primeval tillage of remote antiquity. They have no relation to the present enclosures of the land, and little with the roads; even the older ones cross and intersect them, in a manner that indicates the later origin of the roads; while the long level lines pass through field and road, around the hill sides, reaching beyond the township to the neighbouring hill of Prenton, where also some rude flint implements have been found, which may partly indicate the ancient settlements. These terraced lines are best seen on a clear day, towards sunset, when their course is most strongly marked through the fields by the lights and shadows of the undulations.

That these lines are of artificial origin has also been ascertained by sections cut across them, in cuttings made in the course of building at Higher Bebington. In these, the ploughing down of the soil into terraced strips was plainly evident, the hollow formed on the higher part of the slope by ploughing, and the raised vallum on the lower side from the earth worked down the incline, being quite apparent, as well as the rounding down of these terraces by later culture. These steep terrace banks are called lynches, and the divisions on the terraces, where the plough turned at the end of each strip of ploughland, are named balks, and of these latter divisions also faint traces here and there remain.

The origin of this communal cultivation stretches far beyond the reach of history, and marks the first introduction of agriculture by tribes or village communities, each village holding and cultivating the land in common possession, ruled by its own tribal

laws and officers. To each family was divided every season by lot their share of ploughlands, and provision was made for the rotation of crops and fallow, by the communal rules. Each family usually had allotted to them a number of the narrow strips of ploughland, each of about half an acre to an acre, the total of which usually amounted to thirty acres; but inasmuch as these were distributed by lot, the strips as often as not did not lie together. It is remarkable that on the south-west of the eastern or quarry hill, where these terraces are well marked, there was, within living memory, an enclosure of barely an acre, which bore the name of the "Thirty Acre Field," almost the last remnant of the ancient distribution of strips of land whose name has survived to give the tradition of its use.

TUMULUS.

On the southern end of the same hill, facing the west, and still within the circuit of the terraced lines, we find another significant name, "Humlison's" or "Umlison's Field." No such personal name is known to exist; but the same name is attached to a series of ancient earthworks in Herefordshire; and Humbledown, the site of a fortified early British settlement in Scotland, is possibly derived from the same source.[1]

Within the fir wood that crowns this part of the hill, and near its highest ridge, stands a pile of sandy soil, about 100 feet long by 80 wide, in the form of a tumulus, and this lies on the edge of the field. Popular tradition in the neighbourhood says that this mound was brought here as a fox-earth,

[1] At Humbleton, near Wooler, in Northumberland, is an ancient entrenchment, with a large cairn; and the names of Hamble (Southampton), Hambleden (Bucks), Hambledon (Southampton and Surrey), Hambleton (Lancashire, Rutland, and Yorkshire), Humber (Hereford), Humbershoe (Bedford), Humberston (Lincoln), Humberstone (Leicester), Humberton (York), Humbleton (York), Humby (Lincoln), Humshaugh (Northumberland), occur in Lewis's *Topographical Dictionary of England.* [ED.]

by the Stanleys of Hooton; but the natural sandy soil is sufficient for such a purpose without building such a mound. Moreover, to the south of the mound are traces of artificial refuges, made of rough stones in modern times, which do not touch this mound; also, among the soil thrown out from the holes of the rabbits that burrow among the fir trees' roots, have been found small weapons of flint, possibly indicating an ancient site. This suggestion may perhaps find support in the name of the field.

This mound lies a quarter of a mile beyond the end of the quarry, on natural surface, and is not the result of any quarry operations. Beside it runs the trace of an ancient trackway, in the direction of Chester, and another ancient and almost disused road leads directly towards it from Bebington, ending in what was once common land, probably the higher pasture land attached to the old communal community, but which is now enclosed. A thickly-grown fir wood shrouds this part of the hill. The township is delineated in many places by boundary stones, chiefly roughly-hewn modern posts; but those on the boundary in Prenton wood are grooved stones, that may be, but are not certainly, of great antiquity.[2] In the adjacent district of Higher Bebington was also found the rude stone grain crusher described in the same notes; there is, therefore, other evidence to connect this neighbourhood with pre-historic occupation.

MYTHOLOGY.

Borlase, in his work on *Irish Dolmens*, tells us that the name of Humal, Humelus or Humblus, and Adhumbla, is associated with many pre-historic remains in Ireland, and chiefly with earthworks,

[2] These are described and illustrated in "*Leaves from an Antiquary's Note Book*," *Trans. Hist. Soc. of Lanc. and Chesh.*, vol. xii. (N.S.)

rather than with the stone raths, though some of the Dolmens are also associated with this name. "Jardanes places at the head of his Gothic gene-"alogy, Gapt (*Norse*, Gaut), whose son, the ancestor "of the Royal Gothic line, is Humal." From these names we cannot dissever that of Humber, called, in the letter of King Edward to Pope Boniface, "Rex Hynorum," the traditional ancestor and leader of the Picts, who came, it was said, from Scythia to Britain, and from whom, since he was drowned in the river, the Humber took its name.

While there is no need that we should give credence to fictitious genealogies—nor did their authors intend we should—in respect to the persons therein recorded being living men, they agree in disclosing to us the fact that in this name Humal we have the name of a Baltic deity, in whom the several peoples of the Teutonic stock, who dwelt round that inland sea, recognised a mighty progenitor of their race, who may, as in the case of the Chinese Tien, have been Himmel, or Heaven itself. A southern extension of the name, applied to a tribe and district, is found in that of the Hummelinck and Humelings, who occupied a tract of moor and morass on the right bank of the Ems, north of Osnabruck. Virchou shows they were closely connected with the Frisians.

Now as the name of this great ancestor of the Baltic nations, Humal, stands in this curious position, that on the one hand we may regard it as the German Himmel, Heaven, on the other we cannot but compare it with a name as nearly as possible identical with it, that is to say, Jumalu, the sky-god of the Esthonians, after whom the oak tree was called Pan Jumalon, and worshipped. Into the meaning of this word, which became, and still is, the name of the Supreme God from Hungary to Lapland, I do not mean to go further.

Mullenhoff suggests "that the name Adhumbla "was connected with Humal and Humbli, and "derived from the same source. We have the "curious fact before us, that the Scandinavian cow "*(Adhumbla)* was a sky-goddess, like the Glas "Gaulen, the sky-coloured cow of the Irish, who "performed her round of the island once in twenty-"four hours."

Mr. Borlase proceeds to work out this analogy between the mythic cow of the Irish legend, which was a myth of the sun, and the god Humli; but he omits to notice that, in some districts of North Britain. the mountain cattle bear the name of "Humlies."

It may be thought that the thread of evidence for the pre-historic traces in Storeton is a slender one, but it is from the knitting together, in the right direction, of such small strands that we get the strong cord that vouches for lost history. Here we have together the indications of pre-historic terrace cultivation, the association of the name of the thirty acres with them, an unrecognised earthwork or tumulus, which, although said to be modern, is associated, as in Ireland, with the field bearing the name of a Finnish deity, and finally, the few small worked flints found in it, that combine to mark a pre-historic site.

STONE QUARRIES.

The noted quarries of Storeton may next claim our attention, especially as they bring us to the period of Roman Britain. The great gorge trenched out along the ridge of the hill for nearly half-a-mile in length, and from 50 to 200 yards in width, and with a depth in some places of more than 150 feet, follows the line of the older upthrust of strata that has raised this hill, and is one of the most picturesque features of Wirral; the deep solid beds of

cream-white stone weathered to a silvery colour, like hoar-frost on an old pasture, and the long close fir wood that clothes the low summit has overrun the cliffs and hollows of the older part of the quarry and mingled with heather and gorse, till the greater part of it resembles a natural rocky gorge. Even some of its more modern features have an historic interest. Through the great cutting runs an abandoned and overgrown tramway, and the rails upon the old line are of a pattern used when the first railways in England were laid down: they were employed by Stephenson, and were the invention of J. Birkinshaw, who took out a patent for them in 1820. They are of what is called the "fishbellied" form, being deeper in the centre than at the ends near the sleepers. Of this make of rail, now obsolete, scarcely any examples remain; and these Storeton rails have been thought of such interest, that I was requested to assist in obtaining a specimen to place in the Civil Engineers' Museum.

To return to the earlier antiquities of the quarry we must again resort to archæology, since of history there is little or none. Probably it was originally the common property of the township or the parish of Bebington, since the general use of its stone in ancient work is limited to a comparatively small area, the red local stone being used in other neighbourhoods. The Romans, we know, used the quarry; among the inscribed and sculptured stones in Chester Museum are several that are undoubtedly from Storeton, among others the inscribed tomb of a centurion, with the following inscription:—

PVB. ≻ LEG. V. MACED. ET.
VIII. AVG. ET. II. AVG. ET. XX. V.V.
VIXIT. ANNIS. LXI. ARISTIO
LIB. H.F.C.

This may be translated:—"Pub. Centurio

"Legionis V Macedonicœ et VII Augustœ, et II "Augustœ, et XX Valeriœ Victricis vixit annis "LXI. Aristio libertus heres faciendum curavit." This is given by Mr. Thompson Watkin, who also translated it thus:—"A centurion of the fifth legion "[surnamed] Macedonica, and of the eighth [sur-"named] Augusta, and of the second [surnamed] "Augusta, and of the twentieth [surnamed] Valeria "Victrix, he lived sixty-one years. Aristio [his] "freedman [and] heir caused this to be made." The second legion, Augusta, the twentieth legion, and a vexillation of the eighth legion were in Britain A.D. 44, under the Emperor Claudius, and from continental inscriptions it would almost appear that a vexillation of the fifth legion, also named Macedonica, was also here. Mr. Watkin thought that the word PVB would indicate one of this centurion's official titles, such as CVRAT OP PVB, "Curator Operum Publicorum." And this veteran, who had served in four legions, was an important man in Deva. By means of this stone the use of Storeton quarry would appear to be dated as far back as 44 A.D.

In the centre of a large oblong stone is sunk a cavity, to receive the urn containing the ashes of the veteran who had served in four legions; and upon a second upright stone, also of Storeton stone, is cut the centurion's figure. In addition to the tombstones, fragments of a circular mausoleum were taken out of the city wall, also several Storeton stone metopes, sculptured with the legend of Actæon devoured by his dogs. These appear to have formed part of the frieze of a large building, possibly a temple. The stone was brought to Chester for constructional purposes, and by means of it we are enabled to date the use of Storeton quarry back to the Roman occupation.

By similar means we are able to ascertain that

the Saxons, who entered Cheshire early in the seventh century, also used this quarry. A sculptured Saxon cross at Neston, with the figure of an ecclesiastic and Saxon knotwork, also some pieces of Saxon crosses, probably of the tenth century, from the stones of the destroyed church, and the traces of Saxon foundations at Bebington Church, are all of this stone.

Of Norman work we have the south nave arcade of Bebington Church; and of thirteenth and fourteenth century buildings the nave and tower of Bebington Church, and much of the fine sculptured work at Birkenhead Priory, and some windows of domestic work noted in vol. xii (N.S.) of the *Transactions of the Historic Society*, are all of Storeton stone. Storeton Hall, of the late fourteenth century, is naturally built from this quarry. From the fifteenth to the seventeenth century the stone was freely used in the church and the neighbourhood of Bebington, at the destroyed hall of Tranmere, built by Randle Holme, dated 1614, and as far south as Willaston. From the seventeenth to the eighteenth century nearly all the houses, barns, and fences of this parish and adjacent ones were built of this stone. We may, therefore, conclude with certainty that the Storeton quarries have been in continuous use for over 1700 years. In modern times large supplies of stone have been furnished to Liverpool and elsewhere from the same source; but even the length of time they have been in use, and the fact that roads and fences have been largely made from them, hardly suffice to account for the enormous mass of material that must have been obtained from these great excavations.

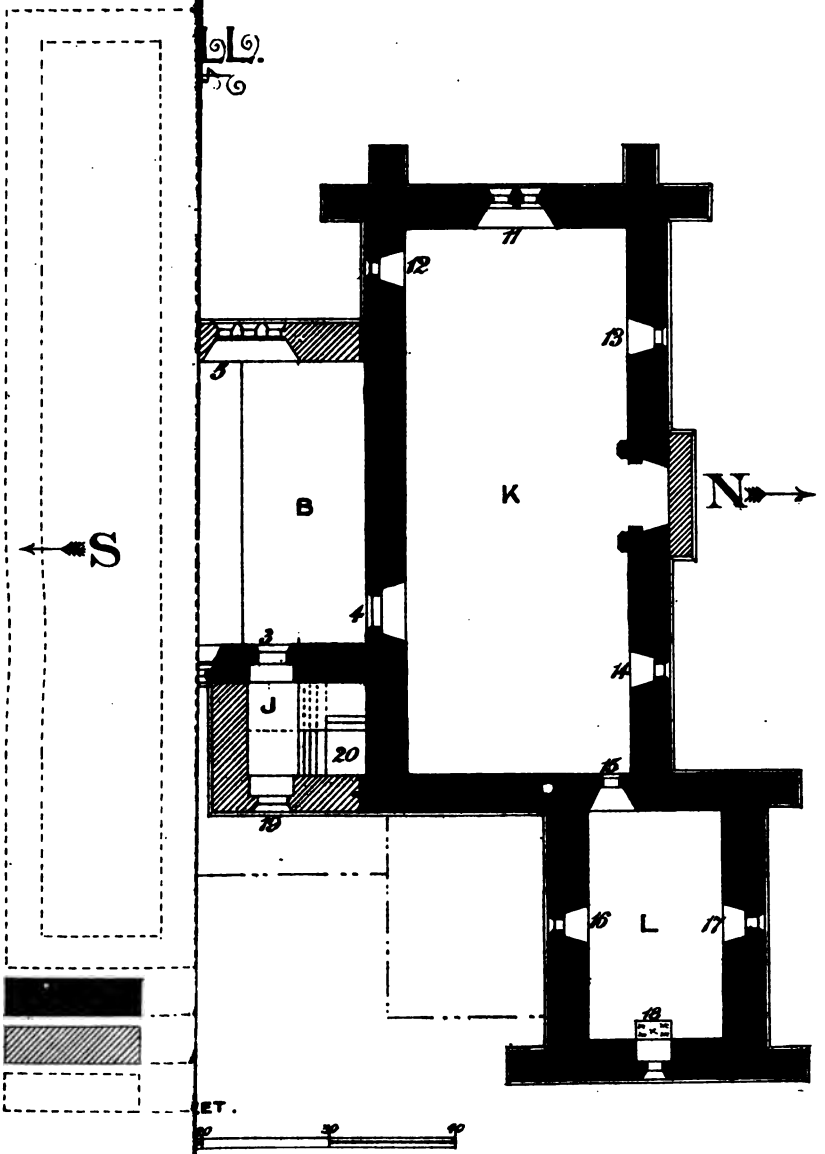
Another feature of great interest connected with these quarries is to be seen in the peculiar manner of working this stone. If the tooling of the Roman

and mediæval fragments is examined, it will be found almost identical with that which survived till the first half of this century, and which has unfortunately of late been displaced by modern methods. The herring-bone and cross-hatched tooling of Roman character is to be seen in numerous buildings of the last century and at all earlier intermediate dates; and so marked is this characteristic, that it has been alleged as conclusive evidence of Roman date in the walls of Chester, by noted antiquaries who were not familiar with our local fashions of work.

Before leaving the subject of the quarries it may be well to note that on a thin shaly upper bed of white argillaceous stone are found numerous foot-tracks of gigantic reptiles, of large and small wading birds, and minor reptiles. These have been impressed on a moist shore, covered in many places with ripple marks, and with the markings of rain, and have been overlaid by another thin layer of white silt, in very quiet and shallow water, so that the counter impressions are quite perfect. The great footmarks resemble a large human hand with a recurved thumb, and are considered to have been made by an extinct and—before their discovery—an unknown bactracian animal, of toad-like form.

It was my good fortune to accompany, about 63 years ago, two then eminent geologists when this curious discovery was first brought to scientific notice, and to see some very perfect examples *in situ*.

The quality of the best beds of Storeton stone is very good. It is worked very easily when new, but being a very pure and clean quartz, it has the property of hardening by exposure. The inferior beds, which are now used freely, are liable to disintegrate quickly by weather.



DETAILS.

A Great Hall.
B Dais.
C Hearth.
D Screens.
E Kitchen.
F Passages.
G Buttery.
H Pantry.

f Great Hall.
Ditto.
o Dais.
o Withdrawing Room.
Hatch.
ws of Hall.
o Domestic Wing.
to Upper Floor.
o Kitchen Court.

9 Kitchen Hearth.
10 Door to Guard Room.
11 Window to Solar.
12, 13, 14 Windows to Withdrawing Room.
15 Door to Chapel.
16, 17, 18 Windows to Chapel.
18 Altar.
19 Porch Door of Dais.
20 Staircase to Solar.

THE VILLAGE.

On the south end of the quarry hill formerly stood the manor mill, now destroyed and almost forgotten. Some of the older inhabitants have heard of it as a wooden post mill, built of oak timber, whose precise site there is now nothing to indicate.

Three roads from the quarry hill lead westwards, crossing the woods and the valley, and ascend the western hill to the now small hamlet of Storeton. The houses in the secluded village of Great Storeton hardly number over a score, and in Little Storeton, about a quarter of a mile to the north, there are about the same number. The chief part of these are cottages and farms, and until a few years ago, when many of them were rebuilt, they were for the most part of respectable antiquity. The chief building was formerly the Hall, the ruins of which have been converted into the outbuildings of a large farm. Not only was this building of importance, but it occupied a most commanding site. Although the village hill is lower than the quarry crag, which screens its lands from the east wind, the central position of this rise between the valleys gives it a much wider outlook, west, north, and south. From the windows of the hall solar the view embraces all the net-work of roads that radiate from Storeton.

The long rounded grassy hill on which the hall and village stand is smooth and easily accessible, but the rock is close to the surface, and the hall stands on the outcropping rock, which is also bare in much of the village street. The soil of the hall and some of the cottage orchards and gardens must have been carried up to the ridge, as it stands in many cases high above the general surface and roads, banked up with retaining walls of stone;

while the old sloping pastures, free from wood that might obstruct the view, surround the village.

THE HALL.

Storeton Hall was the seat of the ancient family of the Sylvesters, who held the office of Foresters of the Royal Forest of Wirral under the Earls of Chester, and from their office most likely derived their family name; and it seems to explain the choice of Storeton as their seat. From the Sylvesters the hall passed by marriage, first to the Storetons, then to the Bamvilles, and finally to the Stanleys. If not specially strong as a military position, it is one of wide command of both land and sea coast; and from this central position the great web of ancient trackways gave easy access in every direction to all parts of the hundred. It is also most probable that these ways were established chiefly in mediæval times, as the hundred was not afforested until about the year 1120 A.D.

When, in September, 1282, Sir William Stanley, of Stonelegh, co. Stafford, married at Astbury Church, Cheshire, Joan, eldest of the three daughters and co-heirs of Sir John Bamville, he became, in her right, owner of one-third of Storeton and Master Forester of Wirral, which, with the remaining two-thirds of Storeton, subsequently acquired, continued in his descendants until the year 1848, when Sir William Stanley-Massey-Stanley, Bart., sold the property to Mr. Brocklebank, of Liverpool. The title to the tenure of their lands was the horn of the foresters, which in 1816 was at Hooton, and is probably now in the possession of the heirs of the late Sir John Massey Stanley, Bart., who died childless in 1893. Fourth in descent from William and Joan was Sir William de Stanley, who married

WEST FRONT STORETON HALL (RESTORED)

Margery, only daughter and heir of William de Hoton (Hooton), and died before 6 Henry VI (1427-8). Another Sir William de Stanley, great grandson of the latter couple, born about 1440, built a mansion house at Hooton, in 3 and 4 Henry VII (1487-89), after which event it is conjectured that Storeton ceased to be the principal seat of the family. Judging from the remains of the hall, its style indicates that it was probably rebuilt about the year 1360, and enough remains of it to show that it was a strong and stately building, well adapted for its uses.

The structure nearly faces the cardinal points, and has consisted of a central hall on the west side, with north and south wings slightly projecting westward, but lengthened out towards the east, so as to form three sides of a courtyard. Whether a fourth side existed towards the east, with a gatehouse, is uncertain. This side forms the rickyard of the present farm, and the site being rock, there are no remaining foundations, nor any excavations for them. The house would form a complete mansion of a well-known local type without such eastern side.

Of the great hall only the eastern wall remains, as high as the heads of the two great square-headed windows that lighted it. They are now walled-up. The hall was 44 feet in length, and 22 feet in breadth, measured, as in mediæval fashion, to the centre of the walls. The walls are admirably built, of well cut and well chosen Storeton stone, and are four feet in thickness. At the south end of the hall the great entrance door remains; it has a pointed arch with hood, and is chamfered. The deep rear arch is a segmental circular one. Its outer face is now covered by the range of stabling built to the east of it, probably in the seventeenth

century, with the ancient stones of the western wall of the hall.

The two tall windows of the hall in the eastern wall, although built up, show, in the more modern openings that have been made through them, sufficient of the ancient mullions and transoms within the stable, and enough of their splays on the west side, to restore them with some accuracy. Between them stood a buttress, now cut down level with the wall, that was formerly external. At the lower end of the hall there is no trace of a minstrel gallery or screen, which latter may have been framed as a roof principal, with oak pillars reaching to the floor. The central buttress suggests that there was a central hearth, with a louvre over it in the roof, and carried by a principal which this buttress would support.

At the southern end of the hall the jamb and spring of a rear arch, at right angles to the east wall, shew the line of the north end of the hall, with the doorway leading to the kitchen and butteries in the south wing, this being the only remnant of the wing, but a very useful one by which to determine its character. A little further south, on the lengthened line of barns that have been added in the seventeenth century, is a well, cut in the rock, and still containing water, which may mark the southern limit of the wing, as it is in the place where the kitchen court should stand.

At the north end of the hall a shattered arched doorway, now the stable entrance, led into a staircase tower, projecting eastwards. This, like the buttress, is hewn level with the wall, but there are indications of where the steps have been hewn off, and where the entrance to the upper rooms of the north wing had formerly been. It seems likely also that the tower formed a porch of entrance to the dais and staircase from the east.

EAST FRONT STORETON HALL (RESTORED)

The only means by which the site of the west wall of the hall can be ascertained is the mark on the wall of the north wing, where it has been cut away, and the return weathering of its plinth, which stops at what has been its external face, and does not appear upon the internal walls. There is no corbel in the existing hall walls for roof timbers nor any sockets; it may therefore be assumed that the hall roof was of cradle form, of the early type, constructed with many trusses of medium scantling rather than with the large principals, fewer in number, of the later roofs. For such a roof the thick walls are eminently calculated.

The buildings at the northern end of the hall are by far the best preserved, their stonework being, with the exception of the lowering of the gables, the destruction of the chimneys, and some modern mutilations in the shape of doors and windows, strong and in good condition. These consist of the great chamber, leading from the dais of the hall by a mutilated arch; the solar above it; and reaching eastwards, and set out of line towards the north, the chapel, with a room over it. The great chamber or withdrawing room and solar have been very fine apartments; the former, now divided into modern offices, had a very massive timber ceiling, carried on heavy cross-beams, for which the large and strong corbels in the walls still partially remain. Similar timbers ran longitudinally, dividing the ceiling into deep square panels; and the chapel was similarly timbered. A wall plate was probably carried on these corbels, into which the joists were mortised, as at Ince Manor.

The solar and chapel were covered with high-pitched roofs. The springing of the gables remains. There are, as in the hall, no corbels, and the roof has, no doubt, been of similar character. The

lowness of the side walls of these upper apartments—about six feet—also seems to necessitate a roof framing of the construction suggested. It may always be predicated that the proportions of ancient buildings are most carefully calculated for the relation of the constructive details to each other. The present roofs have been lowered in pitch, and probably date from the seventeenth century. They are of rough timber, almost unwrought.

The withdrawing room is lighted by only three small oblong windows, which externally are not much wider than loop-holes, but widely splayed within. They have been heavily grated, and the glass was inserted in wooden frames. The lights in the great hall windows were similarly barred and glazed. The solar has three similar windows over those of the chamber, but in addition to these a fine and lofty pointed gable window in the solar opened to the west. This has been of two lights, with a traceried head, but mullions and tracery are gone, and the window is walled up. The entrance to this room is now by a small door from the chapel, with a depressed pointed arch and a shouldered rear arch. The former entrance was from the staircase tower at the S.E. corner; the ruinous aperture is now roughly walled off.

Both the chamber and the solar have had fireplaces in the centre of the north side, and the destroyed chimney seems to have projected externally. Of the lower fireplace only faint traces remain, just sufficient to show that it resembled the upper one. The semi-octagonal projecting jambs of the latter are still partly distinguishable, and on the wall can be traced the outline of a massive moulded projecting hood, now hacked off. A coach-house door has been cut through the lower, and a window through the upper fireplace,

STORETON HALL:— THE SOLAR.

practically destroying both. The large stone on which stood the chimney shaft has been used in building external steps to the room above the chapel, by which the solar is also now reached.

The chapel is a small room, set northwards of the eastern line of the north wing. Its entrance is from the north-east corner of the chamber, through a small door with obtuse arch, and a shouldered rear arch towards the chapel. The ceiling timbers have been very massive, and formed into square panels. On the north and south sides have been small oblong windows, corresponding with those in the north wing, and at the east an obtuse pointed rear arch. The external facings and tracery, if it had any, are destroyed, and the window blocked by the external stair of seventeenth century date before referred to. If any aumbry or piscina existed in the broken walls, it is not now to be distinguished. The room above the chapel has been lighted similarly to the chapel, but a modern door is broken through the east end and the gable rebuilt in brick.

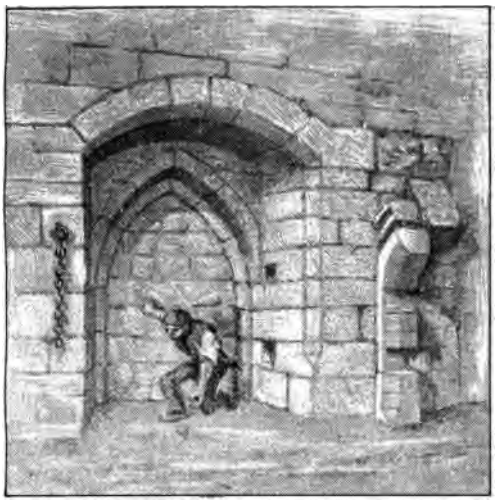
The external angles of the north wing and chapel are buttressed. The buttresses of two stages are set square, those at the west end of the wing are duplicated. The work is plain throughout, but very good. All the openings have plain chamfers, the only moulded work being the hood moulds of the doors and west window, and a little on the gablets of the factable or coping of the solar. The overlap of this coping seems to indicate that the original high pitched roof was of heavy stone slab.

The eastern court, into which the hall door and windows once opened, is now partly covered by the great seventeenth century stable and barn, built from the ruins of the great hall and the south wing. The re-use of these materials might mislead the

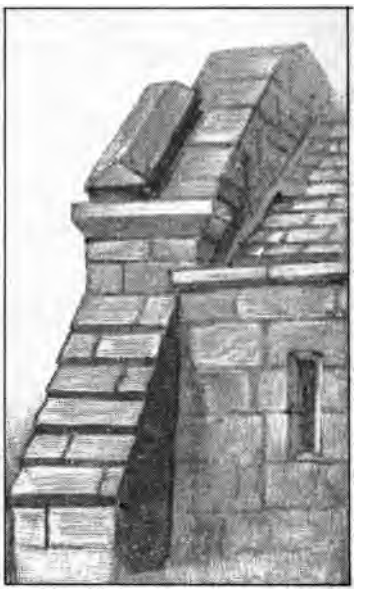
uninitiated to take it for original work. In it are worked up the old plinths and several small square window heads, showing that the old work was of the same character as that still existing. If on the east side any gatehouse existed, there is now no trace of it. In the plan given, with conjectural restorations of the lost buildings, a symmetrical design, corresponding with the north wing, will give all the usual offices and dormitories for the servants' wing, and will complete a conventional plan of the period. The rock on the southern end has been levelled, and it seems likely that a second court of domestic and farm buildings may have stood on this side: not a fragment now remains. One side is occupied with a range of pig-styes and cattle-sheds, and the site of the great hall is the straw-yard of the farm.

On the north of the ancient hall stands the modern farmhouse and garden. One wall and gable, with a blocked-up window of Jacobean date, indicate that this house may mark the date of abandonment of the ancient mansion of the Stanleys as a residence, and its conversion into farm buildings. Local tradition says that a deputy forester resided here until the estates passed from the Stanleys of Hooton. The house shows now no indication of an enclosing wall or moat, nor are the existing remains crenelated. The great strength of the walls, and the disposition of the small loophole-like windows, the strongly defended doors, in the jambs of which the sockets for strong sliding bars still remain, would make it capable of a stout defence.

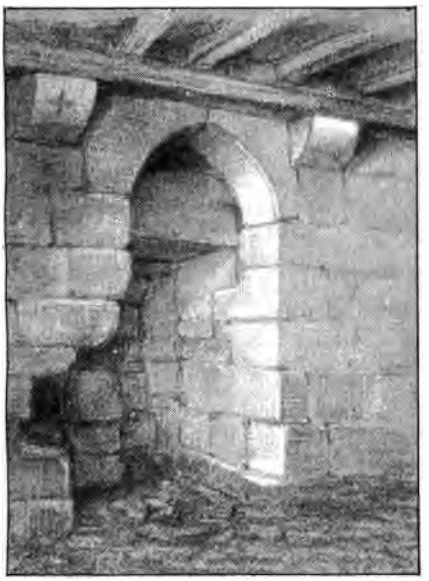
From the Hall northwards the ancient road to Little Storeton, a quarter of a mile distant, now dwindled to a stile path, was thirty years ago furnished with a mid-rib of stone, after the manner of the smaller vicinal ways; and this road con-



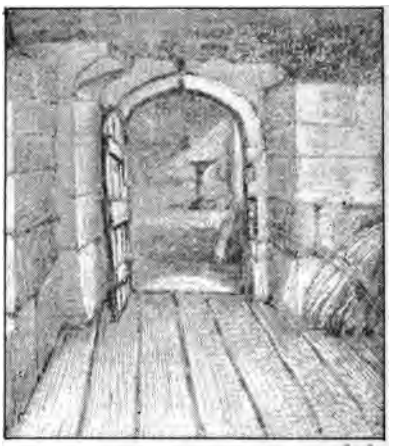
DOOR OF HALL & KITCHEN
STORETON HALL



S.W. ANGLE OF SOLAR



EAST WINDOW CHAPEL
STORETON HALL



DOOR OF SOLAR
STORETON HALL

tinued to Prenton Hall and thence to Woodchurch. Although much modernised of late years, some remains of the stone rib for pack-horses are still visible. A few years ago all the cottages of the village were either of stone or timber framing, and thatched; they have lately been mostly rebuilt, and slated or tiled.

A little south of the Hall, on the same side, there existed in one cottage a large and very well-built stone oven. To the interior of the house the face of the oven had a well-made semi-circular arch of two orders, and a stone shelf below it, supported by ogee-shaped stone corbels. The work was very picturesque, and the house, though otherwise small, must have been in the seventeenth century an important bakery. In restoring this house, the shelf and corbels were hewn off, and the arch blocked up to make a level wall, and plastered over; though by so doing a convenient adjunct to the house was destroyed. Fortunately, I made a drawing of this oven the day before it was destroyed.

On the opposite side of the road is the house with a capacious cellar under the garden. This house also has been restored, but retains two ancient moulded stone mantel-pieces. Still further south, at the junction of the Brimstage path and Bebington road, stood a very ancient timber cottage, built with massive oak roof timbers and thatched. Adjoining this is a large seventeenth-century barn of stone, showing excellent examples of the survival of the ancient methods of stone work. The cottage has been replaced with a red brick shop, which, with the barn, are now covered with brilliant red tiles, that show on the hill-top on a sunny day like a bonfire.

In Little Storeton still remain two thatched cottages, built in the ancient manner on timber crooks, and a third has lately fallen into ruins. Close to

the eastern edge of the township, in the adjacent one of Higher Bebington, are five cottages of the ancient type, built on the arched timbers called crooks. One of these, adjoining Mill Lane, is probably as early in date as the fifteenth century, and still shows its speere by the side of the great open hearth, with an elliptic opening whence to inspect those who entered, also with the original stone seats by the chimney corner, the secret room above the chimney breast, and the ancient hanging pegs of cows' horns and deers' antlers fixed in the wall.

Much as Storeton has changed of late, it still retains some of its rural quiet, and the memorials of the first seat in Cheshire of the house of Stanley, and the simpler life of the past, are still apparent in its ancient Hall, its farms and primitive cottages, with their well-kept orchards and gardens. Long may it remain, unspoiled by the ruthless improving hands of modern Local Boards, and the meanness and squalor of urban luxury, upon its hill overlooking the wide scenes of ancient and half-forgotten conflicts, where now reigns the world-wide influence of England's peace.

A CONCISE ACCOUNT OF THE CHARTERS, MUNIMENTS, AND OTHER RECORDS OF THE CORPORATION OF LIVERPOOL, IN THE YEAR 1897.

By T. N. Morton (Record Clerk).

Read 2nd December, 1897.

THE Records of the Corporations of Liverpool are very voluminous, quaintly curious, and comparatively little known, but are most important to the future historian, and to every one who cares for the history of this ancient commercial city.

OFFICERS IN THE YEAR 1551.

Mayor.
Bailiff—Town.
Bailiff—Mayor's.
Sergeant of the Keys [now Town Clerk].
Church Wardens.
Keeper of the Town Warehouse and Cellar.
Leve Lookers [to see to there being wholesome food in the market].
Supervisor of Mosses.
Mise Layers and Appraisers.
Seneschal of Court of the Guild [now Court of Passage].
Collectors of Road Money.

Water Bailiffs.
Hayward.
Setters of Flesh Boards [Butchers' Stalls].

The RECORDS and MUNIMENTS of this City of Liverpool are principally as follows:—

1. Royal Charters, from King John to Victoria.
2. Minutes of proceedings, 1550-1833.
3. Private Charters, about 30 small [Grant of Arms, 1797].
4. Freemen or Burgesses, Lists of.
5. Old Leases, about 5,000, with plans.
6. Okill's MSS., 36 folio vols.
7. Norris Papers and Letters, 2 large folio vols.
8. More Charters, [Transcripts of].
9. Holt and Gregson's Collection [in Free Library].
10. Court of Passage: Recorded Judgments.
11. Negotiable Notes proceedings, 1 vol.
    African Company proceedings, 1 vol.
    Borough Gaol proceedings, 1 vol.
12. Plan of Liverpool, 1765, not printed.

(And many more not yet calendared.)

RECORDS.

1. ROYAL CHARTERS:—Originals of all except one, but of this there is a copy; see vol. xxxvi. of the Historic Society's *Transactions*, and the printed Report of the Commissioners of Inquiry (Messrs. Wilkinson & Hogg), 1833. These two publications contain the whole of the Royal Charters, which are eighteen in number.

LIST OF THE ROYAL CHARTERS OF LIVERPOOL.

1. Aug. 26, 1207...King John.
2. Mar. 24, 1229...King Henry III.
3. Feb. 5, 1265...Robt. de Ferrers [Confirming Nos. 1 and 2].

4. Jan. 22, 1333...King Edward III [Confirmation].
5. June 11, 1382...King Richard II [Restrictive Clause excepted].
6. May 29, 1415...King Henry V [Confirmation].
7. Jan. 4, 1556...King Philip and Queen Mary [Restrictive Clause excepted].
8. July 4, 1626...King Charles I [Incorporation].
9. July 18, 1677...King Charles II [52 Councillors].
10. April 4, 1685...King James II [61 Councillors].
11. Mar. 9, 1690-1.King William and Queen Mary [Exemplification of Charles II's Charter].
12. Sept. 23, 1695...King William III [Governing Charter; 41 Councillors].
13. June 10, 1698...King William III [the Mayor to be Justice of Peace for the County].
14. June 2, 1709...Queen Anne [Wednesday Market].
15. Mar. 26, 1752...King George II [Mayor and four Aldermen to be Justices].
16. Jan. 19, 1808...King George III [Coroners].
17. April 28, 1828...King George IV [Coroners].
18. May 11, 1880...Queen Victoria [Bishopric].

KING JOHN'S CHARTER, A.D. 1207.

Liverpool, like some other seaports, is not mentioned in the Domesday Survey, probably because no special revenue was then derived from the place, it being part of Walton. The foundation of Birkenhead Priory on the opposite side of the River Mersey, about the year 1150, probably brought an increase of trade and prosperity. When the records of the priory are unearthed, probably we shall learn much more of this city of Liverpool, but at present we first find the name "Liverpool" about 1170. A few years after, King John, by exchange, acquired Liverpool in order to make it a borough, which was done at Winchester on the 28th of August, in the ninth year of his reign. And so Liverpool, which before the charter was merely an outlying part of a large country parish with a pool, was now made a borough town and port, with privileges like other ports and a considerable amount of self-government.

Its new privileges were not specifically mentioned in John's charter, but were the same as other sea-

ports; therefore the burgesses were naturally and continually enquiring for those privileges, and seeking for a further grant. Other ports had acquired grants for a mercantile guild (Hansa) with extra powers, and they therefore gladly paid ten marks for their second charter, that of

KING HENRY III,

which gave similar privileges, and also a very strong clause that no one should trade in the borough unless a member of the guild; that strangers were to be well treated, under a penalty, but were not to retail their goods in the borough without permission.

The other charters down to the time of King Charles I were merely confirmations of this, but sometimes omitting the restrictive clause.

In Charles I's time "incorporation" was acquired by boroughs generally, with power to buy and sell, and this was provided by his charter "recovered" in 1695. The charter of 1695, however, was obtained under somewhat peculiar circumstances, as the following extract from the records will show:—"A new Charter being obtained, Alexander "Norris was turned out of his Mayoralty and "Thomas Johnson sen^r was nominated by his "Majesty to be Mayor in his Room, and upon the "third day of October, 1695, he was sworne by "Thomas Norris and Jasper Maudit Esq^rs and "took the office accordingly." [*L. R.* iv. 700].

Four of the councillors who refused to be sworn and qualify themselves under this new charter were discharged, and others elected in their room.

Three charters, 9 to 12, were passed over in "recovering" that of Charles I.

The charters 13 to 17 concerned smaller matters, such as who should be justices and coroners, and for a Wednesday market.

That granted by Queen Victoria created a Bishopric of Liverpool, and made the ancient borough a new city.

2. CORPORATION MINUTES (1550-1835, and to the present time) :—16 large folio vols. and 10 vols. of Committee Minutes. Of vol. 1 there is a copy made in 1749; 2, 3, and 4 are originals with signatures, 900 pages each; 5, 7, and 8 are rough originals; 6, 9 to 16, fair copies. Extracts from these volumes were chosen from the originals by Sir J. A. Picton, and are now bound up in 13 foolscap folio volumes. He also published certain selections from these extracts in two thick quarto volumes, arranged, not chronologically, but under certain headings or subjects.

The following notes, referring principally to

LIVERPOOL CHAPELS,

extracted from the Corporation Minutes and other sources, may be inserted here :—

[1393-4.] Henry Duke of Lancaster gave a Rent of 12s. to the Chapel (? a chantry.) [O. Bk. 5, p. 143.]

No. 16.—*(Liverpool Chaplain.)*

[1465, 10 Oct. 5 Edw. IV.] Charles Gelybrond and Elena his wife grant to James Harebron, Mayor of Liverpool and its Comonalty, All those Lands and tenements which he lately had by the gift and feoffment of John Gerstan, in the Town and Field of Gerstan, for the support of a suitable Chaplain to officiate in the Chapel of St. Mary of the Quay otherwise at the Altar of St. Katherine in the Chapel of St. Nicholas, or at the Altar of St. Mary in the same Chapel.

Witnesses: William Norres, Thomas Norres, Robert Lathum, esquires.

Two Seals (imperfect): Crosse and Harebron.

No. 18.—*(Liverpool Chapels.)*

[1470, 20 Aug. 10 Edw. IV.] Edmund Crosse, Mayor of Liverpool and the Comonalty with William Brand, cleric, purchase from Robert Tailliour and Margaret his daughter half a burgage of land in Chapel Street, between the burgage of Robert Derby, deceased, on the east, and the Town Cemetery on the west, for the lives of Robert and his daughter Margaret Rendering them forty pence, at Easter and Michaelmas in equal portions. And if Margaret dies without heirs, the property to remain for the maintenance of a Chaplain for the Altar of blessed Mary the Virgin, as per charter. If the half burgage should require rebuilding the stipends of the Chaplains of St. Nicholas and of St. Mary of the Quay are not to be disturbed.

Mem. the said Robert bequeathed to the Chapel of St. Nicholas one patine and a skelet (little bell) after the death of Robert and his wife, and wished that his son should have the care of the same at the discretion of the Mayor and Comonalty.

No. 19.—*(Our Lady's Altar in St. Nicholas.)*

[1498, 23 Oct. 14 Hen. VII.] Evan Haughton Mayor and the Burgesses of Liverpool grant to William Harebroune one burgage with the edifices and gardens in Banke street, between land of Thomas Earl of Derby and the camera of Richard Bexwick on the west, land of Henry Bowlde Kt. on the east, Church land on the north, and Banke street on the south. Rent 6s. 8d. for the Chaplain of St. Nicholas at Our Lady's Altar. They appoint William Lake and Thomas Newhouse their attorneys to take possession.

Seal: a merchant's mark.

No. 20.—*(Liverpool.)*

[1503, 30 Nov. 19 Hen. VII.] David Gryffyth, Mayor, and the Comonalty grant to Richard Bexwyke merchant one quarter burgage in Banke street, late in tenure of John Eves, between lands of Stanley on the west, of William Harebron on the east, for 60 years. Rent 3d. to the King, to the Mayor and Comonalty 3s. 4d. for 20 years, then 5s. for the next 20 years, then 6s. 8d. for 20 years and for ever, as also 3d. to the lord the King.

No. 22.—*(Liverpool.)*

[1515-16, 18 March, 7 Hen. VIII.] William More, squier, grants to David Gryfith, Mayor, and his Co-burgesses, a comyn way for carriages, up the Milne street to the fyldes of Lyverpool and will keep a gate in defence of the field . . . . . in exchange for a lane called the Milne Hill Lane from the Milne street. Power to revoke within a twelvemonth. "Way by Ould Hall" mentioned.

Seal: trefoil.

No. 25.—*(Liverpool Chapel: St. Nicholas.)*

[1523, 5 Oct. 15 Hen. VIII.] William More esq. Maior and Comonalty in fee farm grant to William Molyneux, Knight, a parcel of land next More-green, opposite the croft of William Fazakyrley of Kirkby, being 96 feet in length, by 60 feet in breadth at one end and 36 feet at the other; for a rent of sixpence sterling per annum, for the reparation of the Chapel of St. Nicholas in Liverpool. They attorn Richard Standish, to give seisin.

(Seal gone.)

No. 26.—*(Liverpool: Rood Altar.)*

[1530, 28 Nov. 22 Hen. VIII.] Thomas Rose, brother and heir of William Rose, late of Derby, to Roger Fazakyrley, Mayor of Liverpool and the Comonalty an annuity or annual rent of two shillings from three fourths of a burgage, formerly his brother William's, in Castle street, between lands of William More esq. on the north; and of Nicholas Thompson on the south for the use of a suitable Chaplain celebrating divine service at the Rood Altar in the Chapel of St. Mary and St. Nicholas.

Witnesses: John Walker, Thomas Walker, John Erlonde, Thomas Halghton, Ric. Barker, Rauff Baile, Thomas Harebrowne, Robert Griffith, William Bradshaw, and many others.

Seal: IR in hexagon.

No. 27.—*(Little Crosby and other Townships.)*

[1591, 12 Nov. 33 Eliz.] Queen Elizabeth, on the petition of Alexander Pigott and the advice of William, baron of Burghley, Treasurer of England grants to Richard Urmeston[2] gen. two parts

[2] Inq. p.m. 26 July, 1624, at Westleigh.

of Crosby Hall, 30 messuages, 10 cottages, 40 acres of land, 40 of meadow, 80 of pasture, 200 of moss and turbary and one wind mill of the yearly value of £20, reserving moreover £6 13s. 4d. in Little Crosby, 66s. 8d. in Great Crosby, 4d. in Thorneton, 20s. in Ince Blundell, 6s. 8d. in Orrell, 12d. in Liverpool, £4 in Ditton, 20s. in Warrington, 20s. in Bold, and 52s. in Hindley the property of Richard Blundell,[3] a recusant. Also a messuage called "Ballam" in Westby, the property of William and Cuthbert Clifton, recusants, and certain tithes in Deyles in the parish of Kirkham at the rate of £13 6s. 4d., reserving in Ballam 13s. 4d. and in tithes 13s. 4d. Trees and timber excepted, but house-bote, fire, plough and cart-bote allowed.

Seal: 3 m̃ × 2 in bag.

CHURCH LANDS, ETC.

[1540-1.] The Mayor and 12 most honest men to view the Church lands and tenements, to see that there be no waste or decay therein. [*L. R.* i. 34, 35.]

Mass between 5 and 6 in the morning. [*Ibid.*]

The Mayor to view the Church walls once a year. [*Ib.* 38.]

A clerk to be hired that can sing his plain song and prick song and play on the organs. [*Ib.* 37, 44.]

[1545, Nov.] Chantries confiscated.

[1555.] New adorning of the Church.

[1558-9, 5 Feb.] 2s. to pay a monk of B . . . . for mending a book.

[1558.] Rents owing to the rood altar since Sr William Tyenson's [? Jansen] departure to be paid to officers. [*L. R.* i. 42, 58.]

[1558-9.] Also they do say that Tho. Fayreclough ought to deliver to Mr. Mayor for the town's behove a lawful cow which was in his custody after the free gift of Haydock's daughter to the rood altar and he to pay for the said cow. [*Ib.* i. 42, 57.]

Robt Mercer also had to account for one cow belonging to the rood altar.

Sr W. Tyenson departed.

[1559.] This year Sr Nichs Whyte p'est served the Communion and after conveyed himself away wtoute leave taking etc.
[*L. R.* i. 50 copy 80.]

[1559.] Sir Evan Nicolassen *alias* Tomasson succeeded.
[*Ib.* i. 112, 113.]

3 Ric. Blundell died in Lancaster Gaol, 19 Mar. 1591-2.

Sir John Hurdis. [*Ib.* i. 120.]

[1559, 2 Oct.] Went to Halton Castle and the auditor allowed the arrearages due from the departing (decisse) of Sr John Hurdys. [*Ib.* i. 112.]

He had a certificate of his services during the past four years signed by Robt Corbet, Mayor, Sr Ric. Molyneux, Sr W. Norris, John More, Geo. Ireland, Tho. More, Ra. Sekerston, Tho. Fayrclough, Geo. Ashton, Wm. Secom. [*Ib.* i. 113.]

[1560, Sept. 30.] He received his pension there. [*Ib.* i. 120.]

[1572.] Tho. Bavand to bring in the old Bible book or pay for it. [*Ib.* ii. 21.]

Robt Ball had 3 score and 18 organ pipes in a chest. [*Ib.* ii. 20.]

John Mylner had one other chest in his custody. [*Ib.* ii. 20.]

John Rile had 1 chest and 14 sm. boards. [*Ib.* ii. 20.]

Other vestments to be called for, viz. banners, candlesticks, serges, tapers, &c. [*Ib.* ii. 20-21.]

John Rile has also 2 copes, which he made in apparel for the Mayor's [John Crosse] son Willm Crosse and Thos Burscough with others to play their paidances in. [*Ib.* ii. 20.]

Tho. Roose exr of Sr Evan Nicolasson [late minister] hath in possn "one great large book called a . . . or decretorie [as it is "now supposed] and called a big book of service." [*Ib.* ii. 20.]

[1573.] Austin Turner shall abate of the 37s. 7d. for the "Graile" Book 26s. 8d. to the town's use. [*Ib.* ii. 70, *Ex.* 52.]

BOOKS.

[1550, 3 & 4 Edw. VI, cap. 10.] For abolishing and putting away of divers books:

Antiphoners.	Pies.
Missals.	Portuasses.
Grailes.	Primers, Latin or English.
Processionals.	Couchers.
Manuals.	Journals.
Legends.	Ordinals.

To be delivered to the Mayor then to the Bishop to be burnt or otherwise defaced. Mayor or Bishop to be liable to penalty of £40 for neglect.

Also	Ladies' Psalters.	Catechisms.
	Rosaries.	Breviaries.

[1605, Jas. I, cap. 3, sec. 25.] No person shall import, print, sell or buy [any Catholic books] in any language or printed or

written in English. Penalty 40s. each bk. ⅓ King, ⅓ in former, ⅓ poor. The books to be burned. Two Justices may search houses, &c. Valuable crucifixes to be defaced and returned to the owner.

S. NICHOLAS'.

[1562.] That Mr. Tho. More deliver to the use of the town the Chapel, according to the order taken before Sr William Norris, knight, before S. Andrews next. [*L.R.* i. 142.]

[1568, 25 Oct.] To be provided for

Mayor and Aldn...	4	convenient and handsome bills [or halberts.]	
Bailiffe	2	,,	
Burgess	1	,,	

To wait on Mr. Mayor every Midsumer Eve's walk and at 2 fairs, S. Martin's and S. James'. [*L.R.* i. 174.]

[1572.] John Mylner, minister, was paid 17s. 4d. for a year's work. [*L.R.* ii. 19.]

[1572, 2 Dec.] New silver Cup. [*L.R.* ii. 19.]

[1626-1636.] Ring of Bells. [*L.R.* iii. 59, 169.]

Guilds: Only fragments of the Tailor's Ordinances are found in vol. 1 *L. R.*

NOTE.—In the Records of the Portmote Courts entered in these volumes there will be found abundant materials for tracing the domestic life, habits, and manners of the former inhabitants of the borough, as well as many political changes abroad and riots quelled at home.

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3. PRIVATE CHARTERS (smaller), concerning the following townships, viz., L. Crosby (several), Garston, G. Crosby, Rainhill, Ravensmeols, Toxteth, Hurlton and Scarisbreck, Liverpool Chapels.

4. BURGESSES AND FREEMEN (Names of):—Early ones in the minutes, later in books (see vols. 35 and 36 *Trans. Hist. Soc.*). Printed burgess lists for 1565, 1572, 1589, appear in *Trans. Hist. Soc.* vol. 35, those for 1620, 1629 in *Ibid*, vol. 36; not printed, 1644, 1649, 1653, 1671,

1675. Freedoms (entered in special books), 1746 to 1790 chronological, 1692 to 1780 alphabetical.

5. LEASE-HOLDERS (Names of):—About 5,000, with plans of their holdings. Vol. 1, 1669-1740; 2, 1708-1766; 3, 1767-1783; 4, 1783-1795. Many early leases are entered in the minutes.

6. OKILL'S COLLECTION OF MSS.—Charles Okill, born 1779, died 13th June, 1847. He was for years Clerk of the Committees of the Town Council. In a report on the Birkenhead Dock he says:—"For "the last 15 or 16 years I have devoted every "spare hour . . . to searches and documentary "information." He also paid the custodians of various institutions for copies of deeds of West Derby Hundred. In his time the London Record Office did not exist; hence he applied to the Duchy Office at Lancaster, the Tower of London, the Court of Chancery, and the British Museum; also to Lord Sefton, who kindly lent him documents about Liverpool, and to Lord Derby. Almost as soon as he collected enough for a volume, he had them half-bound as they now are, without chronological order. Mr. Clement Milward, Q.C., London, was employed to report upon them in 1848, when the Corporation purchased them for £800. In his report he styles them as "an "enormous mass of papers, great part of which are nearly illegible." Written chiefly in contracted Latin, Norman French, and Old English: partly indexed: several leaves depleted in various vols. Mr. Milward divided them nearly equally into two classes, viz.:—*Important* to the Corporation, and *Un-important.*

7. NORRIS LETTERS AND PAPERS, from 1694 to 1713:—2 large folio vols. mounted on thin blue paper; about 800 letters, and sundry papers and parchments. (The Chetham Society printed about

three-fourths of the letters in one of their series.) Bought at an auction sale at Manchester, 23rd April, 1835. These need re-mounting and calendaring with names, dates, and subjects. Many of the letters refer to the shipping and commerce of Liverpool; some to the political intrigues of the times. They expose the ruse by which the charter of Charles I was re-granted over three subsequent ones.

8. More Charters (lent by Capt. Stewart, of Altyrodyn, S. Wales):—In number about 700 or 800 parchments. Transcripts *in extenso* have been made by me with indexes of the persons and places. Sir J. A. Picton commenced printing abstracts of 36 undated ones, but the printing has not been carried on since his death.

9. Holt and Gregson's Collections:—Bought with Okill's (says Sir J. A. Picton) now in the Free Library. They include Liverpool biography to the letter I.

10. Court of Passage Records, 2 vols:—1, 1707 to 1713; 2, 1732 to 1764. Sessions Book:—Quarter Sessions and Portmote Courts, with seizures by the Custom House authorities, informations *re* ships and boats, etc., 1724 to 1746.

11. Negotiable Notes of Liverpool, 1 vol.:—Proceedings of the Committee, 1793 to 1796. Several of their notes have been shown to this Society, and quite lately one for £100 was sent to the Town Clerk on sale.

African Company of Merchants trading from Liverpool: Committee Book, 1750 to 1820.

Borough Gaol Committee, 2nd April, 1806, to 4th Nov., 1811 (at the other end of vol.).

Alterations in the Exchange, 1785 to 1789.

Committee Book on Town Dues, &c., 1820 to 1824 (other end).

School Committee proceedings, 1826 to 1835.

12. PLANS AND MAPS OF LIVERPOOL (some never published).

ACCOUNTS OF CORPORATION EXPENDITURE from 1800 (in the Treasurer's cellars); and many other official documents.

13. MISSING DOCUMENTS (some left in London; some lost in the siege, 1644; some burnt in the fire at the Town Hall, 1795), among them these relating to:—

1. The consecration of St. Nicholas and burial ground.

2. Foundation charters of the four chantries.

3. Six paving charters, *temp.* Edw. III.

4. Grants of the market and fairs.

5. Patent, 7th July, 7 Eliz., concerning the ministre and schoolmaster. [*L. R.*, j. 338.]

6. Council Book, Fine Book, Call Book, Check Book—Freemen.

7. Plan of the dock, 1717.

8. Rules, etc., Tailors' and other Guilds.

9. Town Custom Book, 1558.

10. *Quo Warranto*, 1292 and 1498.

11. About 20 leases of the royalties.

12. Almshouses: agreement as to the charities removed thither.

13. Letters patent from King Edward VI, for the purchase of lands to the use of certain chaplains.

14. W. More to S. Nicholas' Church, 1524.

15. Tho. Rose, 1531.

In conclusion, the following extract may show the great care and consideration formerly shown by the Corporation to what is now sometimes called the "woman's realm":—

"John Brookes, gent. Mayor.

[1743, 1 June.] "Ordered that Ald^n^ Rainford "be desired to lay out and plant hedges and make "grass plots for the inhabitants of this town, to "dry their cloaths on, and the said heath to be "made fitting for that purpose, at the expense of "the Corp^n.^" [*L .R.* x. 114-115.]

APPENDIX.

The old seal of Liverpool, with its bird (Noah's dove) and sprig in beak, the Star of Bethlehem and the crescent, seems to agree with the reign of Cœur de Lion (Richard I), rather than with John. Their father, Henry II, had years before given away Liverpool, which shows its existence before King John's charter. Perhaps it was a home-made copy of a more ancient one by an unlettered man who mistook JOHIS for JODIS.

EDITORIAL POSTSCRIPT.

WHILE these pages were passing through the press, news reached us that their venerable, gifted author had passed away from the scene of some thirty years unwearied and intelligent labours in the cause of antiquarian research. The Paper, indeed, as printed, is not much more than Notes for the eloquent discourse delivered by our revered colleague in December last. When afterwards pressed to expand the Notes, though the wish was there the ability to do so had gone. Things mundane were a burden. To quote Matthew Arnold,

"For peace his soul was yearning,
And now peace laps him round."

Mr. Morton's powers of mind and body had, for some months, been failing; but so determined was he not to give in that he was up

and out of doors within a week of his happy and peaceful death, which took place at 21, Mount Street, Waterloo, near Liverpool, on the afternoon of Saturday, the 9th of July, 1898.

Thomas Naylor Morton was born on the 3rd of March, 1816, at the village of Sibsey, in the Boston district of Lincolnshire, the son of a small landed proprietor, who was a keen sportsman and great rider, gardener and agriculturist, one of the earliest cultivators of asparagus, and at the same time a voluminous poet, the author of a Life of Saint Francis of Assisi, and of a work on the Holy Trinity.

His son, Thomas, was educated at Durham University, took Orders, and was a curate for a number of years, at Cirencester, West Houghton (in Lancashire), Harlow (in Essex), and Devizes. While at the latter place, he became involved in a controversy with his diocesan, the Bishop of Salisbury, upon the subject of the Real Presence, and after a long correspondence with him, Canon Estcourt (R.C.), and Dr. Newman, he was received by the latter into the Roman Communion, at the Oratory, Edgbaston, in 1853. After a stay there of some months he went, practically penniless (in truth a great sufferer for conscience sake), to London, to work in the publishing house of Messrs. Burns and Oates. In the metropolis he remained many years, and about the year 1870 he came down to Ince Blundell, where he engaged in scholastic work, and also arranged and transcribed Mr. Weld-Blundell's charters and papers.

About this time he became known to the late Sir James Picton, to whom, in preparing his *Memorials of Liverpool* and other historical works, Mr. Morton's wonderful skill in deciphering and translating ancient documents was simply invaluable.

His fame as a palæographer having reached the ears of the late Mr. Rayner, then Town Clerk of Liverpool, in 1880 he was appointed Record Clerk to the Corporation of Liverpool, the duties of which office he continued to discharge to within a very short time of his death, though warned by very alarming symptoms and cautioned by his doctor that it was dangerous to do so.

As has been said, his skill as a palæographer was marvellous, and his knowledge of places and persons in South Lancashire, from the 13th century onwards, gleaned in transcribing the Evidences of the Liverpool Corporation, those of the Earl of Sefton, Mr. Weld-Blundell, of Ince, Mr. Blundell, of Crosby, the Norris family, of Speke, Colonel Crosse, of Shaw Hill, Chorley, and the Moore Charters and Papers (about a thousand in number), was truly astonishing. For some time previous to his death, he was engaged in preparing Indices to the thirty-six folio volumes of

Okill MSS., in possession of the Corporation of Liverpool—a work which, it is to be hoped, will be presently completed by a competent hand, though it will be hard indeed to replace the one who has left us.

From 1882 till his resignation of this office, at the close of 1897, he acted as Honorary Assistant Secretary of this Society, in which capacity few know so well as the writer of these lines (to whom he was, indeed, a guide, philosopher, and friend) how valuable and varied was his assistance in preparing our volumes of *Transactions* for the press. Mr. Morton was an accurate classical scholar, a theologian, a geologist, an accomplished antiquary, and his knowledge and love of birds, beasts, fishes, and flowers was wonderful. A country walk with him was a joy and an education. He was an authority, too, upon architectural subjects; and so far back as 1841 he published a large octavo volume on *The Churches of the Holland Division of Lincolnshire:* a scholarly, accurate, beautifully illustrated book. He knew much, and was ever willing to share his knowledge with others. None came to him for help and were "sent empty away." Unassuming in manners, he was humble-minded, patient under provocation, a plain liver, and high thinker, a courteous, kindly, honourable English gentleman.

Mr. Morton was married; and his widow, three sons, and two daughters survive him. His eldest son is a very successful Army Tutor, in London; his elder daughter is Reverend Mother at the Convent of Mercy, Handsworth, Birmingham; while the younger is Prioress of the Good Shepherd Convent, Dalbeith, Glasgow.

At his own request he was buried in the Liverpool Cemetery, at Anfield; where, on Wednesday, July 13th, what is mortal of him was laid, in presence of a representative gathering of relatives, friends, and those with whom he had been officially connected, and where, in due course, a coped tombstone of antique form, designed by Mr. Edward W. Cox, will be placed, at the cost of his family and a few of those who loved the man and knew the value of his work.

"*Atque in perpetuum, Frater, ave atque vale!*"—CATULLUS.

PLACES IN LANCASHIRE DESTROYED BY THE SEA.

By Lieut.-Colonel Fishwick, F.S.A.

Read 14th January, 1897.

WITH the subject of lands in Lancashire submerged by the sea in pre-historic times we do not intend to deal in this short paper—indeed this subject has recently been brought under the notice of the Society by Mr. Cox (vol. 10). The places we shall refer to are such as are known from historic and undoubted evidence to have at one time formed part of the county of Lancaster, and to have at a later date been entirely destroyed by the sea; and we hope to now produce such evidence as shall at least approximately fix the dates when they were so destroyed. The places selected are Hert and Fordebottle in Furness, and Argarmeles and Arnoldesdale (or Aynesdale) in West Derby.

According to Domesday Book, Earl Tosti, amongst his other lands in the Lancashire portion of Lonsdale, had two carucates in Fordebodele, six in Rosse, two in Hert, six in a place called Leece, and two in another bearing the same name. West, in his *Antiquities of Furness*, writing in 1774, says that all these places had been swallowed up by the sea; Gregson[1] in 1817 repeats this. William Beamont, in his translation of the Lancashire part of Domesday Book, published in 1863, makes the same statement; which is again repeated in Harland's edition of Baines' *History of Lancashire*, in

[1] *Portfolio of Fragments.*

1868. Now what is the fact? Roose and Leece are still well-known places in Furness, and are frequently mentioned in the coucher of Furness in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Fordebodele has disappeared, but we find that it was a well-known place for over 300 years after the Domesday Survey. In the year 1153, Michael Flameng gave Fordebodele and its appurtenances to the abbot and convent of Furness: this was confirmed by his son William, and subsequently by his grandson Michael, in or about 1228.

From a confirmation made by Henry II (A.D. 1154-1189) of these grants,[2] it appears that Fordbotle, Roose, and Crivelton were exchanged by Michael Flameng for Bardsey. Pope Eugenius III, by special bull dated 1152, took Furness under his protection, and thereupon confirmed to the convent all its previous grants *inter alia* Fordbotle. Richard II, by a charter dated 6th Nov. 1397, also confirmed these grants, and Fordebotle is again mentioned. After this date (1397) we find no further trace of Fordbotle (or Fordebodele).

Crivelton, which was associated with Fordbotle, is no doubt the Cliverton named in Domesday Book, and which Mr. Beamont assumed had been washed away by the sea. Such, however, was not the case; as in the coucher of Furness charters[3] it is described as then being called Newton, which is the place still known by that name. Hert, named in Domesday Book, was erroneously put down by Gregson as being intended for Hest near Lancaster, but Beamont includes it amongst the places swept away by the sea. It is somewhat remarkable that no notice of the place known at the time of the Conquest as Hert has been discovered of earlier date than 1387, in which year (on 14th July) Walter Doget (or Daget), citizen and vintner of

[2] Furness *Coucher Book.* [Chetham Society, ix., xi., and xiv. N.S.]

[3] Chetham Soc. vol. ix. p. 71, N.S.

London, made his will, in which he desired to be buried in the chancel of the church of St. Leonard's in "Estchepe," and amongst other bequests left £10 "to the more needy poor within the Isle of "Hertye in the county of Lancaster"; to his son, John Doget, he left £100 (having already given him £200 before his marriage); the residue of his estate he left to his wife Alice. This will was proved in London, 31st Aug. 1387.[4] There can be no possible doubt but that the island of Hertye and Hert are identical, and that it was situate somewhere off the coast of Dalton parish, probably forming one of the group of islands not far from Peel. Fordbotle was near to the sea level, and assumedly between Aldingham and where the town of Barrow now stands.

According to West,[5] about the middle of the last century ruins of a village were visible on the sands at low water near Aldingham, which village he assumes to have been called Tower Scales; he also adds that tradition says that the church of Aldingham, then standing within the reach of high tides, formerly stood in the centre of the parish, the portion lying adjacent to the sea having all been washed away. One thing, however is clear, namely, that Fordbotle and the Isle of Hert (or Hertye) were both well known at the end of the fourteenth century, and that they have since disappeared, leaving not even a tradition behind them. That they were both destroyed by encroaching of the sea or the shifting of the sand banks we at once take for granted; but to fix the date when their destruction took place is not quite so easy. The existing records of the fifteenth and the earlier part of the sixteenth centuries referring to this district are by no means numerous, and both places may have survived that period and yet no notice of them been discovered; but after the

4 *Register Courteney*, fol. 223, Lambeth Palace. 5 *Antiquities of Furness.*

middle of the latter century, when we have wills and parish registers to assist us, this could scarcely have been the case, and therefore the probability is that these places were certainly submerged long before the end of the sixteenth century. They may have been gradually destroyed by the slow encroachment of the sea, or they may have been swept away by unforeseen physical causes. We are inclined to think that to the latter must be attributed their final disappearance, and that this event took place early in December, 1553.

This may perhaps seem a bold statement to make, but we believe there is sufficient evidence to warrant it. In the first year of Queen Mary, the inhabitants of the Isle of Walney, Ramsed, Salthouse, Marshgrange, and Sowerby Lodge, all in the parish of Dalton, and of Angerton Moss in Kirkby Ireleth, and of Salthouse in Cumberland, made complaints to the chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster that on or about the 6th December then last past (viz., 6th Dec. 1553) a great part of the said towns adjoining the sea by "great tempes-"tious, rages, surges and highe springes of the "sea" was surrounded and overflown either by the sea or sand, to the great detriment of the complainants. In answer to this the Queen directed Thomas Carus, vice-chancellor of the county, John Preston, deputy steward, and William Sandes, receiver of the Crown's possessions belonging to the dissolved monastery of Furness, to go to the Island of Walney, and "by view and examination "of witnesses" find out the damage done. It may be noted that the effect of this storm as here indicated extended all along the coast line from the extreme south of the parish of Dalton to the north of the mouth of the Dudden in Kirkby Ireleth—a distance of 15 miles.

On the 30th September, 1554, the commissioners above named repaired to Walney Island, and exa-

mined six substantial witnesses, to wit—James Hunter, John Ronalson, William Robynson, Robert Nycolson, Laurence Bolton, and Nicholas Yowdelles—whose evidence proved that certain of their Majesties' land, in the occupations of Richard Richardson, John Goweth, and John Yeattes the younger, tenants at Southend (in Walney), had been as alleged overflown "by the sea and sand" within the space of two years past to the extent of 8 acres. The lands in Biggar (in Walney), in the occupation of their Majesties' tenants John Yeates, John Parker, Laurence Torver, John Quynfell, Edward Decanson, James Decanson, John Gybson the younger, Christopher Bolton the elder, Christopher Bolton the younger, William Bolton son of John Bolton, Rowland Lange and James Haverygge, had been damaged to the extent of 5 acres of arable land, 1 of meadow, and 14 of pasture. Of the Crown lands in North Scale (in Walney) 2 acres of pasture were "wasted by sea and "sand"; the tenants of these lands were William Bolton son of Christopher Bolton, George Cawsey, Alexander Gibson, William Wynrey and others. The lands held by Geffrey Wylde, Richard Bankes at North End in Walney were inundated to the extent of 4 acres of arable ground, and 4 acres of pasture. Of the lands at Ramsed 2 acres of arable and 4 acres of pasture land were wasted. As this place is described as in the island, it may not be identical with Rampside; there is a very small island between Walney and the mainland still called Ramsey Island. At Salthouse the tenants of the duchy were Richard Hunter, William Dagget, Matthew Hunter, the wife of James Dagger; their lands were wasted to the extent of 4 acres. Sowerby Lodge, though on the mainland, is described as in the island; here the tenant, Robert Herteley, only lost 3 roods of meadow land. Marshgrange, held by the widow of Roger Ask-

ewe, was inundated to the extent of 3 acres. At Angerton Moss in Kirkby Ireleth 7 acres of arable land and 2 acres of meadow were destroyed; the tenants of the Crown here were the heirs of Perceval Woodhouse, James Walley, Nicholas Woodburn, Nicholas Richardson, Richard Shepherd, John Postlethwaite, Robert Askewe, Richard Walley, and others. In Cumberland at Salthouse (in Coupland) there were also some duchy tenants who fared even worse than the Lancashire ones; lands were wasted, houses, hedges, and ditches were broken down and destroyed.

The commissioners further reported that it did not appear possible to recover any of the lands submerged, on account of the vehemency of "the sea "which is continually flowing, and that no defence "can be made against the great rage thereof." The land destroyed was of the yearly value of 16*d.* an acre for arable land, 2*s.* an acre for meadow, and 8*d.* an acre for pasture. The tenants at Biggar had spent 1800 days' work repairing their ditches; but one great hole remained which might be repaired for £10 spent in timber to make "spylys" and other things to fill it up. At Salthouse and Marshgrange "spylys and wyndynges[6] "and a sluce or hough were necessary for the "safeguard of their Majesties' inheritance."[7] The extent of the damage done by this storm to the sea-coast of Walney Island and its neighbourhood is recorded by the fact that over 49 acres were utterly destroyed or buried by the sea; and this land was only the portion occupied by the tenants of the duchy. The Island of Hertye and the place called Fordebotle may have been owned by freeholders.

Before leaving the Furness district, it may be

6 Probably *piles*, the wyndynges being the *wattle* or rods and twigs used to fill up the spaces between the piles.

7 *Duchy Pleadings*, vol. lxvi. R. 3, 1 Mary.

noted that besides the sea there were other agencies at work to destroy the small villages in the neighbourhood. The abbot of Furness, in 1516, it appears on most credible authority, pulled down the whole of a town called Sellergarth, in Furness, which consisted of 52 tenements, and turned the third part of the town to pastures for his own use, and at the same time he laid waste many other houses.[8]

At a much earlier period than that in which the lands in Furness were submerged, there was a great influx of the sea which seriously affected the Lancashire coast. According to Domesday Book, there were somewhere in West Derby two carucates of land, worth 8*s*. and free of all taxes except the gelt, and this land was held by Wilbert, and was known as Erengermeles. This place was assumed by Baines and others to be identical with Ravensmeols, a hamlet in the parish of Walton-on-the-Hill; we are now in possession of evidence to prove that this is not the fact, but that the land in question formed a part of the ancient parish of North Meols, and was so recognized for several centuries subsequent to the compiling of the Domesday Book.

In the 33 Hen. III [1248-49], Thomas de Betham died seised of Argarmell and other lands; and in the 39 Hen. III [1254-55], Radulphus de Betham died in possession of the same.[9] From a charter without date (but about A.D. 1280) it appears that Hugh, son of Roger de Derebry, gave to Robert, son of Richard de Formby, son of Albin the priest, a selion of land in the "vil" of Formby, lying in that place called le Wra, and running from the garden of Alan Norreys (?) to Hongelowe, and also a garden which the said Hugh had near the Higfin' brigge, and a messuage which Roger

8 *Duchy Pleadings*, vol. ii. C. 3, 8 Hen. VIII. 9 *Inq. Post. Mort.*

de Argarmeles held in the same place;[10] and a little more than a century later (24th Mar. 1361), when Henry Duke of Lancaster died, amongst his vast Lancashire rentals were fees receivable from Northmeles and Argarmeles, the one name following the other in the original *Inq. Post. Mort.*

Argarmeles was clearly a well-known place in 1361, and was destroyed probably before the end of this century, or very early in the next. The proof of this is found in a pleading in the Duchy Court in 19 Hen. VII [1503-4], the plaintiff being the King's escheator of Lancaster, and the defendant Sir Henry Halsall, Knt., the matter in dispute being the title to lands in Northmelys (Northmeols) and Scarsbrik.[11] The MS. is unfortunately very much worn and defaced, but sufficient remains to answer our purpose. It was admitted that the plaintiff's lands in Northmeols were held of the King as of his duchy by service of the fourth part of a knight's fee; but Sir Henry Halsall contended that Argarmelys, with all the lands and tenements belonging to it, were long before the decease of his father, Hugh Halsall, "drowned and adnichilate "with the high see oute of the lawgh water mark "and also oute off the body of the countye," so that they were not held either by the King or any other person.

The matter was committed to Hugh Conyngsby, one of the Justices at Lancaster, who on St. Bartholomew's Day, 1503, took down the evidence of the various witnesses. One of these was John Sherlock, aged 80 years, who deposed that he had always lived at Halsall, but he never knew a town or place called Argarmeles, but had "hard say "that suche londes ther were and drowned in the "see but wher nor in which parte he never hard

[10] Deed *penes*, Mr. John Formby of Formby.

[11] *Pleadings*, vol. iv. L 37, 19 Hen. VII. [See *Lanc. and Ches. Rec. Soc.* vol. xxxii. p. 21.]

"tell." William Harrison of Barton (1½ miles from Halsall), aged 66, confirmed this; whilst Hugh Tokwold, aged 75 years (60 of which he had spent at Halsall), said that he had heard that the abbots of Merryvall and Whalley had great lands within four miles of Halsall "worn into the "see." As no one appeared to contradict these statements, it must be accepted as true that Argarmeles was washed away, or rather submerged, within a few years of 1500. John Sherlock, aged 80 in 1503, was of course born in 1423, and he had only "heard say" that Argarmeles had been washed away; it had evidently not happened in his time. In the face of such evidence, it appears certain that the locality of Argarmeles is now definitely settled.

In the parish of Lytham, tradition says that the original church lies buried beneath the sand, and that on Christmas Eve its bells can be heard to ring; and according to the testimony of a witness in a pleading, respecting certain lands there in 1532, the Kelgrymoles churchyard at Lytham was "worne into the sea 2 or 3 miles," and that even in his remembrance "2 miles of fair pasture had "been worne into the sea"; thus showing that the sea twice made great inroads on the land in Lytham—once during the witness's lifetime, and once previously.[12]

One other place on this coast which tradition says was submerged by the sea in 1554 is Singleton Thorpe. This rests entirely on the authority of the late Rev. Mr. Thornber, who quotes Dodsworth's MSS., but gives neither volume nor page of that rather extensive collection; and as no one else appears to have been able to verify it, and not one particle of supporting evidence has been discovered, it may be relegated to the realms of

[12] *Duchy Pleadings*, xxiii., L. 2 N., 24 Hen. VIII.

tradition, especially as Mr. Thornber built upon it a theory as to inhabitants of the lost Thorpe forming the village of Singleton, which was many centuries old at the time of the supposed flood; and also adds some utterly untenable propositions as to a Gingle Hall near Rossall, and Chingle Hall in Whittingham (see Mr. Thornber's *Penny Stone*). Mr. Thornber also states (on his own authority apparently) that a village called Waddon Thorpe, to the south of Blackpool, had also been submerged, but there is no confirmatory evidence of this; on the contrary, if a village or even a cluster of houses known as Singleton Thorpe or Waddon Thorpe existed between the mouth of the Ribble and the mouth of the Wyre as late as 1554, it is absolutely certain that some record concerning them would have remained.

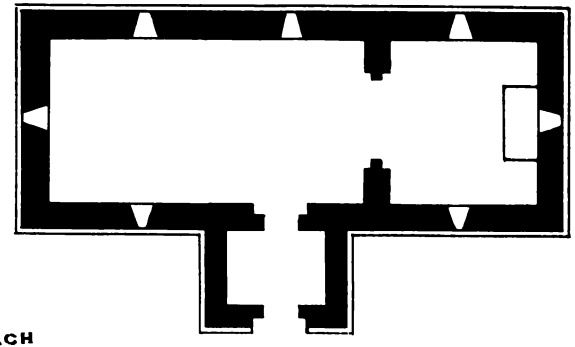
In the same district, and no doubt destroyed at the same time, was Arnoldesdale or Aynesdale, of which in 2 and 3 Philip and Mary [1555-1556] in a dispute as to land in Birkdale, Henry Halsall, Esq., the plaintiff, deposed that there was no manor in Lancashire called "Anoldesdale, but he "had often heard it reported that for a truth there "was a certain town in times past called Aynes-"dale near adjoining the lands in dispute" (in Birkdale), and that the said town time out of mind had been and still was "overflowen" with the sea, "so that there remains no remembrance thereof "now."[13]

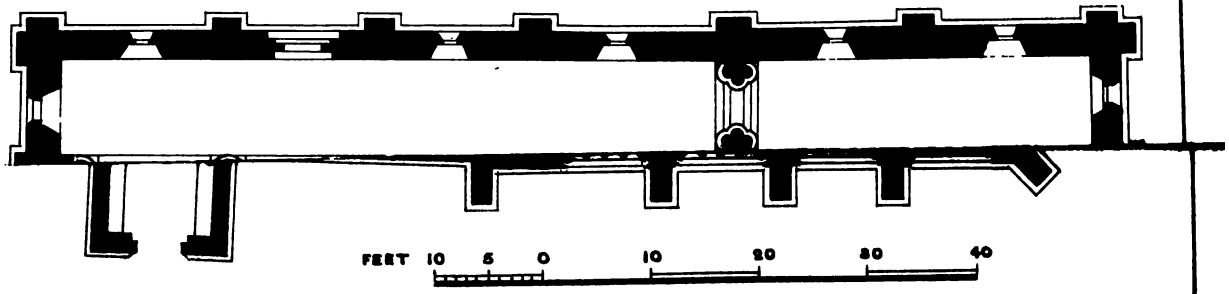
[13] *Pleadings*, &c., Philip and Mary, vol. xix. H. 2 C.

Ancient Churches, Bebington Cheshire

SKETCH OF SAXON CHURCH

PLAN OF SAXON CHURCH





THE ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF BEBINGTON CHURCH.

By Edward W. Cox.

Read 4th November, 1897.

THE recent alterations made in the ancient and beautiful church of Bebington, under the name of "Restoration," although they have run the usual course of loss and destruction of some of its ancient features, have at the same time been the means of disclosing a number of details of the original building, which previous patchings in 1846-7, and earlier periods of this century had concealed; and as further alterations of this building are proposed, which may easily confuse the historic sequence of the church, it seems well to record shortly the facts already known, and now confirmed by the late discoveries, as to the successive buildings and additions that have occurred since the Saxon church was built.

TRADITIONS AND VESTIGES OF THE SAXON CHURCH.

The tradition that has been handed down among the natives of the village, that the Saxon church occupied the area of the present south aisle of the nave, seems to have good grounds. A plinth, with a weathering below the foot of the south nave wall shows a different class of masonry from the two or three courses of Norman superstructure remaining above it; which line indicates that within the space of the south aisle was contained the small Saxon church, with a chancel

deflected to the northward, 15 feet in length, a nave of 30 feet, and a south porch in the centre of the nave. That this work is pre-Norman is plain, because the partially existing Norman arcade of the nave covered the whole line of both the earlier nave and its deflected chancel, and beyond this the Norman chancel extended eastwards.

THE NORMAN CHURCH.

The Norman arcade (now the south aisle arcade) originally opened into a north aisle, there having been, at the Norman rebuilding, no south aisle, and the present south aisle was the body of the church. In 1847 the still existing Norman font stood at the west end of the south aisle, and occupied no doubt its original site in the Norman church. Until the recent "restorations," not a single trace of the Norman chancel existed, but a sufficient number of stones which composed it have been found during the recent work to enable its character and extent, which had been previously derived from analogy only, to be recovered with fair certainty.

The original nave of the Norman church consisted of four bays, with cylindrical columns, having cushioned capitals, with their three columns and two responds, and carrying plain unmoulded arches of two square orders. The easternmost of these arches was, at the end of the 15th or early in the 16th century, reduced by the extension of the chancel westwards to a span of about 6 feet. The western limit of the ancient Norman nave seems to have been marked on the newer chancel wall, by a small conical corbel of semi-octagon section, apparently intended to carry a lamp. The span of the four original nave arches was about 10 feet each, thus nearly corresponding with the whole length of the pre-Norman church, and this arrangement existed till

the alterations of 1847. It is plain, therefore, that, as we have the well defined extent of the Norman nave, the earlier plinth with its deflected chancel must belong to a prior church, and the succeeding buildings all deflected from the same point, and still do so, though the proportions of the naves and chancels are varied. There is, moreover, a division of the early nave and chancel indicated by the plinth being dropped about 6 inches at the point of deflection, and it is thence carried eastwards at the lower level. Thus by careful examination of the Norman nave, we may evolve the Saxon church.

The north aisle of the Norman extension was probably a narrow one, which may be inferred from the fact that it was enlarged and widened northwards about 1320, when the north aisle was converted into the body of the church: the original nave thereby became the south nave aisle, the Norman arcade being retained.

If there was any tower to the church before this period it stood on the site of the present one, and there is no trace of it.

THIRTEENTH CENTURY ALTERATION.

There was an alteration made in the south nave wall about 1260 to 1280, which gives us valuable information, both as to the early and the Norman church. At that period the Norman south door and porch were taken out, and a well-moulded Early Decorated door substituted; also two small windows were replaced by two light windows with uncusped heads in the lights, of simple bar tracery.

The window to the east of the porch is set at a lower level than that on the west, following in this the lower level of the Saxon chancel, and quite possibly replacing the Saxon south chancel window itself. I have been told that a step down to the east in the nave formerly existed within the memory of

people still living, but only one informant could remember this feature of survival of the Saxon levels.

The recent restorations have been the means of showing the character of this alteration; the external part of the wall is fairly regularly coursed, and though partly refaced about 1824 to 1828, and in part rebuilt, most of it shows internally the very rough random work of unfaced stone into which the well-wrought 13th century ashlar masonry has been inserted. This wall batters, or slopes outwards in the interior, the exterior being vertical, a common feature from the 11th to the 14th century. This rough wall was always meant to be covered with plaster, and has been frescoed with a foliated pattern of the 13th or 14th century, on a very thin and hard white plaster that discloses a little of the unevenness of the original surface.

The essentially modern fashion of emphasising the joints and beds of masonry by conspicuous pointing, has been employed by the recent "restorers," the only consolation for the coarse effect of this being the fact that it emphasises the evidence of the 13th century alterations, which the frescoed plaster was meant to conceal.

The foregoing remarks have sufficiently shown the site of the early church and the nave and Norman aisle. It remained for the examination of the walls when stripped of the plaster, during the recent alterations, to disclose the details of the Norman chancel, of which no portion remains *in situ*, and at the same time it made evident that between the erection of the present noble chancel and that of Norman date, one of the 14th century was built.

NORMAN CHANCEL.

When the nave was extended northwards, about 1320, the Norman chancel was taken down, and its materials used in the extension; the

NAVE.- BEBINGTON CHURCH before restoration
From an Oil Painting dating about 1790

west end is principally built of its stone, and the nave arcade has also been, at the same time, replaced with parts of the same materials. The open joints of these walls, when the nave roof was removed, enabled the intelligent foreman of the works to find remains of seven capitals and bases, with the carved and moulded portions turned inwards, and partly squared into ashlars, while below the west window are two stones, 10 feet and 7 feet 6 inches long respectively, which have apparently been originally monolithic columns of much smaller diameter than those of the nave, which are built of ashlars. These stones have been squared down to about 7 inches in depth, and seem to have been originally about 12 inches diameter in the round. These long stones are not now so readily distinguishable from the ordinary masonry as they were when first uncovered, the restoring workmen having partly supplied them with sham vertical joints, pointed with cement, an improvement which the good taste of the foreman, however, prevented them from entirely completing. From the west gable of the nave has been taken a piece of one of the larger capitals and a portion of a base, which now lie neglected in the churchyard and require caring for.

In a scrap book in the Mayer Library, made about 1847, at the date of the earlier restorations, there is a drawing by W. G. Herdman, which shows a voluted capital apparently suitable for a three-quarter column of the smaller diameter. The capital taken from the west end, as well as the voluted capital, both vary from those existing in the nave, the cushions of the latter, instead of being plain, as in the nave, issue from a kind of sheath, and are without the intervening fillets seen in the nave. There is also at the west end of the nave a corbel, curiously made up of Norman fragments, one of

which is a scolloped moulding, apparently from an ornamented arch; also among the stones of the west end are many voussoirs of unmoulded arches similar to the nave. Here then are the materials from which we may recover the Norman chancel.

Taking the conventional proportions of such a church, we should expect to find a chancel with a north aisle of two bays, and a square east end, not an apse, with a chancel arch and an arch of smaller dimensions across the aisle. Let us take then these remnants found in the walls and adjust them to such a plan. The chancel arcade would give us for its two arches one free and two attached pillars, or responds, of the same dimensions as those of the nave. To these we may allot the capital and base with the richer form of cushion capital. This accounts for three capitals and bases. The chancel arch and cross arch of the aisle will give four responds, with bases and capitals, thus making up the number counted among the remains and built up in the later walls. The two long stones will represent one of each of the nearly detached shafts of the clustered chancel and chancel aisle responds.

These shafts will represent the middle member of the responds; the capital drawn by Herdman is appropriate for one of them; and the lengths of 10 feet and 7 feet 6 inches will fit the chancel arch and the smaller arch of the aisle. The piece of scolloped moulding is suitable for an ornamented chancel arch; its only other likely application would be to the north door, and the detail is rather large for such a position. The south door having previously been replaced by that of Early Decorated date, its fragments would not be found in the walls of *circa* 1320. There is nothing to show what the arrangement of the Norman west or east walls and windows may have been, nor are the details of any

other Norman window preserved. We have recovered indications only of a church with nave of four bays, chancel of two bays, each with a north aisle, and chancel and aisle, cross arches, a door and porch in the centre of the south side of the nave, the arcades with cylindrical columns, with capitals of two patterns, for nave and chancel, and the cross arches with clustered responds, and ornamental arch moulds.

THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY CHANCEL AND NAVE.

It is evident that when the materials of the Norman chancel were used for the enlarged nave of 1320, that a new chancel must have been built in the same later Second Pointed style. The only fragment that could give any clue to what this had been, was a portion of a monial belonging to a large window of 14th century date, having an external roll moulding, filleted and adapted for two orders of tracery. There seems to be no place for this except the east window of the Second Pointed chancel; the scale is too large for side windows, and each window of the nave is in place, and has a different type of moulding. This interesting relic I had placed on the hearse house, and it has since been lost.

The nave that superseded the Norman north aisle, remained until 1847, when the north wall was set outwards to build a new north aisle, and a new arcade was made in imitation of the original south arcade, a copy of the sprawling segmented lath and plaster arch that replaced the original two eastern nave arches, was also made, and still remains on the north side. The nave was reduced in width about three feet, and its two original side windows, door, and porch were re-set in the new aisle.

DESTRUCTION OF NAVE ROOF.

The ancient oak roof of the nave was also destroyed, and replaced with a very poor one of deal,

consequently only the western wall of the nave of 1320 is now in its original position, and the square-headed two-light window, with ogee headed lights, has been widened, by the modern addition of one light, to a three-light window.

The re-set windows to the east and west of the north porch, are a three-light window with flowing loop tracery to the east, and a two-light window with reticulated tracery to the west, the openings foliated with a sub-order of cusping.

THE PRESENT CHANCEL.

The last mediæval addition to the church was the building of the magnificent Third Pointed chancel, of three bays, with its two side chapels forming chancel aisles. To construct this the chancel of 1320 was wholly removed, and it was intended to rebuild the whole church, beginning from the east. This rebuilding comprised the chancel, with its aisles and one bay of the new nave; but there it suddenly ceased, probably at the Reformation, and the junction of the new bay of the nave with the ancient Norman one that it had been intended to remove, was made by re-setting the old Norman respond against the new clustered pillar of the new nave, and by the reduced arch already referred to, which in 1847 gave way to the lath and plaster substitute. The chancel is too well known to need any elaborate description. Rickman supposed its east window which, though Late Perpendicular, contains flowing tracery intersecting its vertical lines, to be a reminiscence of an earlier Decorated east window; and this is not unlikely, as we have seen that the chancel must have previously been rebuilt in 1320. Its three bays, with their lofty and delicately moulded, yet massive, clustered shafts of lozenge plan, set with the longer axis north and south; the refined set of mouldings,

CHANCEL,- BEBINGTON CHURCH
From an Oil Painting by EDWD. W. COX.

which are neither capital nor bands, which define the imposts of the four centred arches; the bold, well-raised bases, that give apparent and real strength; the slender wall shafts, which rise through the columns to the blind story, where the clerestory is usually found, and which are repeated in the aisle chapels; the lofty four-light side windows and three five-light windows of the eastern end, combine to make one of the finest compositions to be found in its style in any local parish church.

ALTERATIONS IN 1847.

The stonework of this fine work happily remains almost complete, the only alteration made having been effected in 1847, when the double pillar of the west nave arch was removed, and a casing, in imitation of the dividing piers of nave and chancel, was substituted, giving it a resemblance to the arrangement of the central portion of a cross church. Though this was a regretable interference with ancient work, the effect at this portion of the alteration was satisfactory from an architectural point of view. The wall below the windows of the side chapels is panelled in stone, each bay having four panels, with cinquefoil heads.

FORMER PRIESTS' DOORS AND SACRISTY.

Formerly there was a north and south door at the eastern bay of these chapels. The southern one, with its oak door and ancient hinge and lock, is still visible on the exterior, but blocked up within, and the panels made over the space in imitation of the other bays: the north door was destroyed, and its fragments used to block the opening. A third doorway leading eastwards into the sacristy was blocked up, with lath and plaster, when that building was taken down. One of the commendable things done in the "restoration" of

1897 has been the partial reopening of this door, which is useless, being hidden to half its height by the modern raised floor of the chancel and sacrarium; another, the removal of the sacristy, a low building of 16th century date, built up against the east wall of the chancel. The corbels for its roof remain under the raised sill of the east window, and the aumbry for the church plate is still visible in the exterior of the east wall of the chancel. The sacristy was last used for a school, and is described as having had long mullioned windows, and was probably originally crenellated after the pattern of the exactly similar structure at Sefton.

The existence of this small door indicates from its position that the nave and chancel floors were originally on the same level, with the exception of the traditional one step down into the nave; and it is probable that the original altar stood only on a foot pace, as it did when the Laudian altar rails existed.

These twisted turned pillars, with capitals and bases of strong and very good character, and the fine rails, were removed in 1870, and have since been lost, as has also some arcaded panelling of the same period, that formed pew fronts in the north chapel, shown in a lithograph, by H. C. Pigeon, dated 1847.

There is in the extreme east end of the south chancel wall a single-light window of singular form and position. It is on the level of the clerestory, and is the only ancient clerestory window in Wirral; the window has a transom, and the heads and foot of the two divisions have elliptic arches. The purpose seems to have been to throw light on the fine canopied and pinnacled niche on the north-east side of the east wall, which probably contained the figure of the patron saint, St. Andrew. On St. Andrew's Day the light from this window

falls exactly upon the north side of the altar, where the celebrating priest would stand.

FITTINGS OF CHANCEL

Among the best features of the church, as it now stands, are the stalls for the choir. These are fitted with oak bench ends with poppie heads and carved elbows, the ends are adorned with Perpendicular tracery of the same date as the chancel. On the elbows and some of the poppie heads or finials are several grotesque heads and portrait faces, very expressively cut. A portion of these stalls is modern but good work, replacing some that have been put to other uses, and which were removed from the church on the "restoration" of 1870. Some of these were made up into furniture now in private possession. Two of the poppie heads and part of the stall ends are made up into a kind of arm chair in the singers' vestry. The finials are angels looking outwards, and each bearing a shield. Although the stall work is appropriate and fine, it is not in its original position; what are now the stalls were probably the subsellæ, and other parts, perhaps, some of the nave benches. A drawing made in 1847, in the Mayer Musuem, shows that there were about sixteen such stalls and benches with finials, which are shewn as in various parts of the church, but chiefly in the north chancel aisle, and at that time the whole church, in the centre, was almost filled with 18th and 19th century square pews, nearly up to the chancel rail. At the re-pewing, these ancient benches were made into the present stalls.

It is certain from remains in the church that the original arrangement included a set of stalls with misereres and elbows separating each seat, carved with attached shafts, and ornamented with heads, figures, &c. Over these were, most likely, canopies, though of such nothing remains. Three of these

stalls with their misereres, representing the pelican, a group of fish, and a portrait head, are put together as a kind of moveable sedilia on the south side of the sacrarium ; two misereres are set up as brackets in the vestry, a bull's head, and a sow with sucking pigs ; and there is an angel finial and fragment of a stall, with a lion on the elbow, in the tower vestry. Thus it is evident that the chancel was originally fitted with misereres. The chancel pillars bear no trace of ever having been fitted with parclose screens, and this seems further to indicate that they were separated from the chancel by canopied stalls.

TRACES OF ROOD SCREEN.

There are no existing parts of the rood screen ; two sockets, now plastered up in the panelled piers of the chancel arch, seem to show that there was a rather low screen, and the mouldings are marked on each side, as though a rood loft over a flat over-hanging canopy had formerly existed. A new screen, as a testimonial to the rector, has been set up. It is very well carved, but being fifteen feet high, the view into the fine ancient chancel is completely obscured, in spite of the lean and attenuated standards and tracery, which fail to obviate this fault.

The only known relic of the ancient floors is a 16th century tile, now in the Mayer Museum. It is curious and rare ; it bears a rhymed verse on the uncertainty of life, and is made of reddish-brown clay, the inscription incised, and filled with yellow slip. It is called a wall tile (erroneously, I think), and was found in a garden near the church.

A painting, dating about 1790, shows the chancel with square pews up to the sacrarium rails, and only three stall ends on the north side ; it therefore seems likely that the chancel fittings were moved

into the north chapel when the church was pewed, and when brought back to the chancel they suffered further loss, and were not accurately replaced. The abolition of square pews and the introduction of open benches and modern chancel fittings separating the chapels, was under the direction of the late Mr. Ewan Christian.

A western gallery and a smaller one, the latter for a string band, were introduced in 1828, and removed in 1847; traces of an external door to the latter exist in the south nave aisle.

THE FRESCOES.

During the restoration which took place in 1897, the plaster which had been put on the interior walls of the nave has been removed; and the supposition that frescoes would be found, induced me to recommend that great care should be taken not to destroy the underlying coat of thin, hard plaster that would be found on the stones if frescoes existed.

Traces of frescoes were found on the south and west nave walls, but skilled labour was not called on to uncover them, and only a very small part of what remained of them was saved from destruction.

On the south wall the patterns seem to have been entirely foliated work, in chocolate and black upon a white ground. There is a running pattern round the window openings and the doorway, and the wall spaces were treated with undulating and spiral stems, with leaves formed like those of the willow. The west end is almost stripped of its thin, hard fresco plaster, but judging from a strip in the north aisle, which extends beyond the modern north arcade built against it in 1847, the west end was treated with figure subjects. All that remains is a helmed head, with a serpent crest, apparently belonging to a prostrate figure; there are fragments of red and yellow drapery, but the dress is not

distinguishable. An upright red and black line reaches upwards from the position of the heart, and above the prostrate head is curiously coiled drapery, with a border dotted with black, and apparently feathered. Imperfect as this piece of work is, it may possibly have formed part of a fresco of St. Michael overthrowing Satan, the white coiled drapery being that of the Archangel. Certain stones in the added north aisle, taken from the original north wall, also bear traces of fresco, and show that the whole nave was originally covered with this work.

The treatment of these walls in the recent restoration cannot be commended. The west wall is fairly well coursed, but with wide joints. The south wall consists of unwrought rubble work, of the roughest character, in the interior, with wrought stone quoins to the door and the inserted windows, and here and there a re-used Norman stone. From its first construction this wall was intended to be covered with thin plaster and painted. The offensive modern custom of "exhibiting ancient "construction," however rough and imperfect, has misled the restorers into raking out and pointing with cement every rough, inartistic, and irregular joint and bed with a wide and conspicuous line of cement; even the spills or little splinters of stone put in to fill up irregularities, are so distinguished, and the rudeness of work never meant to be shown is thus made doubly conspicuous.

This fashion, so far from being genuine restoration, is a poor, modern, architectural affectation, and its mock archaism is now even introduced into new work as if it were sightly and desirable construction. If any admirer of this fashion exists, he should practise it on the brick walls of his own drawing-room before introducing it into a church, where the ancient treatment is in evidence to contest the theoretical one

GRAVE SLABS.

Below the benches in the south chapel are two grave slabs, partly broken; on each is a cross with trefoil terminations; on one is a sword, and on the other a pair of shears, the emblem of a woman; a third cross, in relief, with eight arms, and showing also the shears, is built into the modern north aisle of the nave. There appear to have been seven or eight of these slabs, and drawings of three, now lost, are in the Mayer Library; one was beautifully foliated. That in the south chapel showed a cross on a semicircular foot, representing Mount Calvary. In the east wall of the south chapel, in the place where the altar formerly stood, repair has been made with three portions of cross grave slabs, one having the Mount Calvary foot; another, a cross head; a third, partly behind the pew panelling, shows a sword hilt, with a dagger above it. Another, much damaged, which shows the stem of a cross on three steps, and a sword beside it, forms part of the wall of the modern coal cellar. A portion of the trefoiled head of another is to be seen over the south nave arcade, and a similar fragment is built into the churchyard wall. Before the restoration of 1847 many of these slabs lay in front of the altar rail, others in the north chapel, and they have been, as is customary in "restorations," removed from time to time, as suited the taste of those who preferred to see new work upon the floor.

BRASSES.

Beneath the seats in the south chapel are four brasses, two rectangular, and two heart shaped. One of the former commemorates Hugh Poole, rector of the parish, and is dated 1622; the others are very difficult to decipher.

CHURCHYARD CROSSES.

The churchyard crosses may here be mentioned. The large one, on the north, stands on an octagon base of three steps; it originally had four and a plinth. The base of the cross is much worn and mutilated, and is set on the third step remaining, the upper step being lost; it has four moulded bases for angle shafts round the empty socket, and four pedestals, which suggest that it may have been ornamented with four niches and figures at its lowest stage. The head of this cross was dug out of a grave some years since, together with a wooden cross, supposed to have been the rood, now lost; and both may have been buried to save them from desecration. The head of the cross shows two wide and rather coarsely executed niches back to back, with ogee foliated canopies. In one niche is represented the Crucifixion, in the other the Blessed Virgin and Child; both are greatly damaged, and this relic is carelessly left in the hearse house where its condition has not improved. The cross on the south side was set in a massive square base, the angles canted with an effective stop; the truncated shaft has been made into a sundial. This is the earlier of the two crosses, being of 14th century style; the north cross is late, and may be early 16th century work.

LAMP BRACKETS AND PISCINÆ.

On each side of the sacrarium are brackets set in the wall for lamps; they are semi-octagonal and pyramidal in form, the apex downwards, and unmoulded.

There is a piscina in the south wall, and to the east of it formerly stood a square aumbry, now destroyed. The niche of the piscina has a four-centred moulded arch; the bowl has been replaced by a plain slab.

At the east end of the south aisle a moulded bracket is fixed on each side of the east wall, and a piscina of the same character as that in the chancel; a fifth lamp bracket has been already referred to, as indicating the limit of the former nave and chancel. At the suppression of the chantries in the reign of Edward VI, a small endowment for keeping a lamp burning in Bebington Church was confiscated. The northern bracket in the chapel is wider than the south bracket, and probably supported a sculptured group.

THE ROOFS.

The roofs of the church, with the exception of a few old timbers in the chancel aisles, are now, since the "restoration" of 1897, almost entirely modern. The history of the many changes to which they have been subjected is so curious and interesting, that it seems best to speak of them separately.

The original roof of the south aisle of the nave, the former body of the church in the 13th century, was high pitched, and the weathering of its gable on the tower marks its lines. A similar span roof, also partly marked on the tower, covered the north aisle of *circa* 1320. Though no fragment of this roof remains, it was almost certainly a cradle-framed roof, with closely set crossed timbers below a collar beam forming consecutive framing, without purlins, or spars, or chief principals. Had purlins existed, some corbels or sockets in the tower wall would have been provided; but the ancient ashlar is unbroken, and shows no trace of sockets for purlin, or principal; and purlins would be necessary for a roof with principals. Apparently in the 15th century lower pitched roofs to the nave were substituted, with four trusses, having collar beams and braces.

This roof was destroyed in 1847, and a deal one substituted of inferior design, put together with

iron bolts. The nave having been narrowed at that time by about three feet, the ridge was not in the centre, and a kind of sham inner roof was made on one side to prevent the appearance of a lop-sided roof. This contrivance lowered the centre roof about two feet in the interior. This 1847 roof was, in its turn, swept away in 1897, and the present modern one put up, which, although not following any previous design, is not worse than that which immediately preceded it, though built on the same system, with iron bolts in place of full carpentry framing.

A painting, in the possession of Miss Feilden, made about 1790, which I was privileged to copy, gives a very accurate view of the nave with its second mediæval roof, and the three-arched Norman arcade and additional small altered arch. This roof was carried on stone corbels; its successor had imitation corbels of thin deal board; that put up in 1897 has wall pieces without any corbels.

CHANCEL AND CHAPEL ROOFS.

The transmutations of the roof of the chancel and its chapels is even more intricate and curious. The chancel and its aisle chapels, built at the beginning of the 16th century, have fine triple wall shafts in the central chancel and each aisle, to carry the original roof. These have bases and capitals some feet below the cornice to carry wall pieces, and possibly hammer beams, for the three main and two half principals that composed its three bays, a narrower one being added over the sacrarium. The principals were framed with cambered collar beams of naturally curved wood: their modern successors are cut out of straight wood below the collars, and strongly and deeply framed into the collars and backs, were curved braces, forming a segmental pointed arch. These braces

were no doubt originally also framed into the wall pieces, or into the struts of the hammer beams, that sprung from the capitals of the stone wall shafts.

The side aisles had lean-to roofs of low pitch, not as at present, span or gabled roofs, and the timbers were likewise carried on the heads of the stone shafts in the aisles. The weathering and sockets for this roof remain in the blind story, the latter filled with brick; and over the old weathering, and below the parapet, is part of a fine cornice, with cavetto moulding, set with well cut pateræ or bosses, and grotesque heads, meant to be seen, but now concealed by the more recent gable roofs of the aisles.

ALTERATIONS IN THE CHANCEL ROOF.

The first alteration made in the chancel roof appears to have been due to the decay of the wall ends of the trusses or principals, or of the wall pieces. An ingenious but not very artistic means was taken to remedy this: the wall pieces were removed, the imperfect ends of the timbers cut off, and deep corbels, of three and four stages, were built over the heads of the wall shafts, projecting into the chancel to receive the shortened ends of the timbers. The curved braces were not cut level at the foot with the other timbers, but were notched out so as to embrace the top angle of the corbel, and thus avoid the sliding of the feet of the principals, and to throw the strain lower down the walls to the top of the wall shafts. By this process the roof was lowered in position but not in pitch, and the ends of the two ranges of purlins were set into the east and west walls. The old purlin sockets, at the higher level, were found in the 1897 restoration stopped with clay and straw. This roof was practically the original

one. On one of the beams at the pseudo crossing outside the chancel arch, and which carried on it a 16th century moulding, was cut the date 1686 and the names of the then churchwardens, and this probably dated the curious repair just described. The date was considered by the restorers to be that of the whole chancel roof, and was alleged as one reason for its destruction, it being only 200 years old: a supposition which its construction decidedly negatived.

THE CHURCH THATCHED.

Further alterations were made from 1822 to 1824, at which the churchwardens' accounts give the record of a large sum for new roofing the church. Some of the earlier entries explain the nature of this new roofing, which evidently was slating, as there is a charge for removing the thatch previous to this repair. The church, therefore, was partly or wholly thatched up to that period. The ancient church at Bromborough was also thatched, according to tradition, about a century back. At this time plaster ceilings seem to have been put on the aisles, which were removed in 1847. It is not clear when the chancel aisles had their roofs altered to span or gable roofs, but it may have been late in the 18th century. Some of the old lean-to timbers were used again, and the line of the old external coping of the lean-to still exists, hidden by ivy on the east wall. The brick filling of the old sockets of the timbers is not of early date, and the gable in the interior is made up with brick of modern make.

ROOF ORIGINALLY INTENDED FOR LEAD.

It is evident from the character of the original chancel roof, and some part of the ancient oak lining, that they were originally intended to be covered with lead. I would suggest that we have lost

part of the history relating to these roofs, and that it lost its lead covering, and was covered with thatch, during the period of the Commonwealth. It is hardly possible that so fine a church, of such costly construction, should have been intended for so mean a covering, or that the low-pitched aisle roofs could have carried an efficient thatch, hence the raising of their pitch by placing on the tie beams a perfectly plain king post roof, which is still visible.

CENTRAL ROOF.

The first bay of the 16th century nave was covered with a queen post roof, with tie beam and collar beam; it had two principals; the tie beam had a moulding round and hollow, quirked, the other members quite plain. This suggests that the nave might have been intended for a flat panelled ceiling. In 1847 a deal ceiling in nine panels, of very poor construction, was set up in this place. The chancel and its aisles being ten feet higher than the ancient nave, the junction of the intended new nave with the old had the gap filled with oak framing, in which were two small square western windows.

ANCIENT ROOF CONDEMNED.

At the recent restoration some amount of decay was found in the timbers of these roofs, and though it was to a great extent superficial, and the timbers could have been repaired by scarfing and piecing, and some of the more decayed ones replaced, so as to preserve the ancient roof, the whole of it was condemned and destroyed with the exception of the comparatively modern principals of the aisle chapels. During the destruction of the old roof several pieces of wall plate were taken out with earlier mouldings than the 16th century, probably belonging to the 14th century roof. A further plea for its condemnation was that it was constructed on a bad principle.

THE NEW CHANCEL ROOF.

A new oak roof has been put on the chancel somewhat resembling the old, but quite differently constructed, partly of American or Baltic oak, partly of English; the framings of the joints do not exceed two inches in depth, some much less. A horizontal member has been added at the foot of the rafters, lying on the old corbels. The joints of the ancient roof were not less than four inches, strongly pinned with oak; the new roof supplements its weak joints with iron bolts. The roof condemned as bad in principle stood well, with scarcely a faulty joint, for about 400 years, its strains were carefully and well balanced; the new roof, not a year old, already shows strain and stress, with cracks and shakes exactly in those details where the "bad principle," so called, had been departed from in favour of essentially modern methods. The first bay of the 16th century nave has been fitted with a new cradle roof panelled, and the deal nave roofs and boarding of the chancel are stained to imitate oak. Perhaps the purism, which insisted on showing construction in the rubble work walls by conspicuous pointing, has not yet extended to the treatment of the carpentry thus stained to imitate another quality of wood than its own.

Without desiring to say too much about the restorations, to which the parishioners have generously and lavishly contributed funds, it is necessary to speak of one of its omissions.

The third pillar of the ancient Norman nave, removed in 1847, has been carefully preserved in a garden in the village, and could have been replaced, and the correctly proportioned Norman arch added according to the ancient plan existing before 1847. The architect has preferred to copy in stone the extremely unsightly lath and plaster sprawling skew arch which replaced the original, merely

making its curve elliptic instead of segmental, which is no improvement on his model, and is also constructionally weak. The springing of the second 16th century nave arch and west side of the clustered shaft were shown during this rebuilding, but have again been cased over with modern masonry. The respond of the small arch could also have been replaced or reproduced; it now forms the western respond of the new north aisle.

MODERN REPAIRS OF THE CHANCEL ARCH.

During the work a remedy was sought for the failure of the south pier of the chancel arch, which has moved some inches out of the perpendicular towards the south, distorting slightly the chancel and southern cross arches. This was done by taking down the wall above the chancel arch, and rebuilding it hollow with only inner and outer faces, to relieve the weight above.

Inasmuch as the failure probably arose in the foundations, and through the injudicious digging of graves inside and outside the fabric, the weakening of this wall is more likely to cause additional danger than to remedy it; the weight of a thoroughly solid and well compacted wall over an arch is a source of strength in spite of its weight. In this hollow wall is concealed a bottle, recording the work done in 1897, together with coins of the realm, newspapers, and a parish magazine. The names of those responsible for the late works have been conspicuously cut on a collar beam in the chancel; there is therefore no occasion to further advertise them. Had some money been spent in reducing and removing to another site the huge and overpoweringly noisy organ that completely blocks up the lovely north chapel, a good work would have been accomplished.

MASON MARKS.

The mason marks in Bebington Church are more interesting and numerous than any in Wirral. They are fully given in Mr. W. H. Rylands' paper in vol. vii.-viii. (N.S.) of the Society's *Transactions*. All that need be said of them further, is that the very numerous ones in the chancel and chapels showed that a very large number of men was employed. The work was evidently hurried forward, and, though very good, shows many signs of haste. The two side chapels, although bearing a general resemblance to each other, differ in almost every detail of moulding, window tracery, and finish from each other, suggesting that each was built by a different donor—many marks on the north side do not appear on the south—but enough of identical marks are found throughout to show that the two sides were built concurrently. Additional men seem to have been employed on the north chapel, and this shows the greater signs of haste, and some awkward junctions where the work of the several sets of masons met.

The very careful way in which the whitewash was removed from the beautifully finished stonework of the chancel in 1870, leaving every mark distinct, is one of the most creditable of the many restorations. This stone work was wrought to be seen, and contrasts strongly with the present condition of the nave.

TRADITIONS.

An unrecorded battle has left some trace in Bebington Church. When the old nave floors were removed at the earlier restoration a number of skulls were found, many of which were perforated and fractured by wounds, and the iron head of a spear was also found. As this latter is lost, and

no careful examination of the remains was undertaken, it is now impossible to find any clue to the history of these remains.

Two popular errors with regard to this church have been so often repeated that they need correction. The first is that the bowl of the font is Saxon; it is of Norman date, with its bowl divided into plain square panels by semi-cylindrical ribs, and a row of shallow oval hollows forms a band round its upper rim. Its pyramidal oak cover, which had an ancient finial carved with two angels, disappeared with other old oak at the 1870 restoration.

The second mistake, which has been repeated in many notices of the church, is, that the chancel was designed for stone groining. There are no springers for groining over the wall shafts, nor any wall ribs at the side walls, or east or west ends, and the masonry appears original; no sign of flying buttresses that would be essential for so wide a span, nor are the side walls of the aisles or the buttresses of sufficient strength to sustain so large an area of groining; nor, were the original lean-to aisle roofs replaced where they originally were, would there be any room to set groining between them and the heads of the original wall shafts. The actual character of the ancient roofs I have already explained, and I have done so the more carefully, because in "restorations" that have retained nothing they have dealt with in their original form, much interesting sequence of history has been lost. Some of the fine sound oak of the old roof has been made into lining for the churchwardens' pew, with imitation lap joints; also into panelling of the south porch by a parishioner, the style adopted being late Jacobean. Several little tables were also made of the same timber.

Mr. Charles Reid, writing in 1848 on Bebington Church, speaks of fragments of stained glass remaining in some windows. The late Rev. T. B. Banner, who was curate at Bebington prior to the 1847 restoration, spoke both of some excellent painted glass, which my informant thinks was chiefly in the south chancel chapel, also of a number of the now dispersed grave cross slabs being then *in situ*. Not a fragment of old glass remains.

CARE OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS.

It is to be regretted that the several interesting fragments of the cross and the Norman Church, now lying about in the churchyard and hearse house, have not been provided with a safer place for their preservation; also that, in spite of remonstrances made for some years past, graves continue, from time to time, to be dug in close proximity to the walls, and especially about the foundations of the very heavily-constructed tower and its buttresses. The chancel buttresses have also been pierced by a modern drain. It is much to be desired that the parishioners of this ancient and beautiful church, in addition to their praiseworthy liberality in finding funds for its restoration, would also endeavour to learn its great architectural and antiquarian value, which far exceeds the worth of any modern adornment that may be designed to obscure or replace these old features; and that their new lamps, however costly, can never possess the charm and magic influence of the old, which once lost can never be supplied.

LANCASHIRE AND THE BENEDICTINES.

By Dom Gilbert Dolan, O.S.B.

Read 8th April, 1897.

(With subsequent additions by Joseph Gillow.)

Introduction.

IN a paper, read before the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, in December, 1892, it was my endeavour to give some account of the principles of life and organisation of the *Ancient Religious Houses of the County of Lancaster.* My present task is of a more limited character; it is to bring together from various sources not generally accessible such facts as bear on the connexion in post-Reformation times between the said county and the order of Saint Benedict; a subject not, I am willing to suppose, of very general interest, but still not unworthy of the notice of those to whom nothing is without value which throws any light on the bygone history of this part of England.

Whatever else may be in controversy, no one will gainsay that the Reformation and the "Elizabethan settlement of religion" gravely affected the prosperity and legal status, nay, the very existence, of the Religious Orders which had figured so prominently in previous times. In that great change, when so much that was once honoured and venerable was lost for ever, no more than three of the orders which of old had been known and honoured in the land were able to maintain themselves; the Bridgettines of Syon, the Friars Minor, or Franciscans, and the black monks of St. Bene-

dict. The latter, though reduced, it is commonly believed, to a single member (Dom Sebert Buckley, a monk of Westminster, professed there during the brief restoration of that house in the reign of Queen Mary), soon grew into a fairly numerous body.

Various circumstances connected with the internal history of the English Catholics contributed to this prosperity. The excellent life and regular observance of the monks of St. Benedict in Spain and Italy attracted to their ranks not a few of the young English students, who had betaken themselves to foreign lands for that education which the law denied them at home. Others there doubtless were who sought among the Benedictines for that peaceful freedom from controversy and rivalry which was distracting from its nobler purpose the zeal and energy of Jesuits and seculars alike; and others, too, who hoped and prayed that, as of old their country had been won to Christianity by the preaching of the monks, they could best serve the purpose they had at heart, the re-conversion of England, by joining the ranks of the new bands of missioners which were finding their way into the country from the Spanish and Italian cloisters. In the first thirty years of the seventeenth century these English Benedictines, aggregated in due legal form to their pre-Reformation brethren, through the sole surviving member of the old order of things, found themselves possessed of five monasteries abroad, some of them numerous and flourishing establishments; and counted in all some two hundred priests engaged in the work of the aforesaid monasteries, or else in England in missionary labour. Their chief continental centre was the monastery of St. Gregory the Great, at Douay, in Flanders, a foundation which they owed to the munificence of Philip Cavarel, Abbot of St. Vedast's at Arras, a promi-

nent figure in the ecclesiastical and political life of the times (1605). Shortly after the establishment of St. Gregory's, a second residence was procured at Dieulouard, in Lorraine, chiefly through the good offices of Dr. Pitts, one of the exiled clergy. There they were put in possession of the collegiate church of St. Lawrence, which had been abandoned on the translation of its former chapter to the newly erected see of Nancy. From Dieulouard a colony set forth and found a home at St. Malo, in Brittany; the monastery of St. Benedict, founded there by the English, was at last, from political considerations, handed over to their French brethren of the congregation of St. Maur. A fourth settlement was made at Chelles, and transferred to Paris; this was the monastery of St. Edmund the King (founded principally through the exertions of Dr. Gabriel Gifford, an English Benedictine, who had become Archbishop of Rheims), which at a later period was so beloved by the exiled King James II, and at a still later period was visited by Dr. Samuel Johnson. The fifth and latest of the continental monasteries established by the English monks was the abbey of SS. Denis and Adrian, at Lambspring, near Hildesheim. It was one of the many ruined cloisters which their German brethren of the Bursfeld Union handed over to our countrymen to recover, if they could, from those into whose hands they had fallen; and the only one where a permanent community was established.

But the English Benedictines were not content with the opportunities afforded them by their continental monasteries; they sought, and with all due authority from the Holy See, a wider sphere of usefulness for their work in the English mission. The conditions of their life in England were of course entirely different from those under which they lived abroad. The hidden manner in which

perforce they were obliged to labour, their constant change of residence, their disguises, the perils and excitements of priestly life during the long persecution, and the imprisonment and death by form of law which was the fate of many among them, must have seemed indeed abnormal to those who had grown accustomed to the even regularity of the calm cloisters of the continent. To those who should cavil at their life, they might have answered almost in the words of John Henry Newman, that the ordinary externals of monachism were not needed "while martyrdoms were in progress" (*Essay on Development*, ed. 1878, p. 119). However, as far as circumstances permitted, the fathers engaged on the English mission, sent thither from the houses above enumerated, revived the pre-Reformation organisation of their body. They divided themselves into two provinces as of old, conterminous with those of the old hierarchy; and Canterbury and York were no longer names possessed exclusively by the State Church of Elizabeth's setting up. Not many years passed, and we find the Pope of the day re-erecting the old monastic cathedral chapters, and so far recognising the modern sees of Peterborough, Chester, and Gloucester—which owed their origin to the schismatical Henry VIII—as to found cathedral chapters of Benedictines in those places where, before the Reformation, their fathers had so long resided. Possessed thus by Papal authority of capitular rights in the primatial and metropolitan see of Canterbury and in eleven other dioceses, the English Benedictines could feel that in working on the English mission they were engaged in a vineyard peculiarly their own, with a position and rights as good as, if not better than, those claimed by their fellow-labourers of the clergy, or other religious societies.

This combination of the religious and monastic profession with, under due authority and obedience, the active work of the Mission, developed a type of monk that was probably new in Benedictine history. From what we know of the numbers who were at one time or another engaged in the difficult and at times dangerous work for the catholic cause in England, that type was not the least worthy of the many which have grown up under St. Benedict's rule. It was a simple, manly type; thoroughly English, hardworking, unobtrusive, devoted to the sacred cause it had been raised up to assist; and, with but insignificant exception, free from party bias as from political intrigue. And what is more, it stood the test of time and trial: when the great revolutionary wave swept over so great a part of Europe, wrecking nearly every monastery in its path, the English Benedictine system almost alone emerged unharmed, when Corbie and Glanfeuil, Fulda and Marmoutier had perished.

No sooner had the way been opened for the return of the Benedictines to England than we find them engaged in Lancashire; indeed a modern critic has specified this county as sharing with Yorkshire in the special care of the missionary monks.[1]

In the following pages of this paper an endeavour will be made to give some account of the natives of this county who joined the Benedictine ranks; of the members of the order who have laboured within its boundaries; and of the chief centres of their work from the time of James I to the present day. Premising that much of what is to follow is of the nature of a catalogue, of more

1 "Each order had its pet corner over here, in the choice of which it was "influenced by the fact of its friends or patrons happening to reside in the "chosen district. It was thus that the Benedictines selected Yorkshire and "Lancashire for their mission field," &c.—See p. 32, *The Spectre of the Vatican.*

value (as a contribution to county history) than interest, I begin with the names of Lancashire men who were admitted into the Benedictine order down to the break-up of its monasteries abroad, at the end of the last century. And as the Benedictine is bound by the tie of his vow of stability to the home of his religious profession, the names will be grouped together according to the different *families* to which the monks belonged. Needless to say, among so many names there are some of the slightest interest; here and there, however, one or two may be found to interest the genealogist or to throw a little light on the dark places of local history.

Natives of the County of Lancaster professed among the Benedictines.

And first: Dom Anselm Beech, who was professed in Italy, at St. Justina's at Padua, in 1591, was a native of Manchester. As agent for the Italian Benedictines he was generally known, for safety sake, as Fr. Anselm of Manchester. He retired to Padua in old age, and died there on December 28, 1634 or 1635.

Another father, engaged, like the preceding, in the reorganisation of the order after the Reformation, was a second Lancashire man, Fr. Torquatus, or Thomas Latham, third son of Henry Latham, of Mossborough Hall, Rainford, Esq., who became a monk at St. Martin's Abbey, Compostella, and died at Douay, December 19, 1624.

After the establishment of the English monasteries abroad, numerous postulants from Lancashire presented themselves for admission. I give their names in the order in which they joined the various communities, with the year of their entry, their birthplace (when it can be ascertained), and the

VERA EFFIGIES RDI. P. AMBROSII BARLOW, PRESBYTERI,
ET MONACHI CONGREGATIONIS ANGLICANÆ, ORDINIS
STI. BENEDICTI, QUI PRO CHRISTI FIDE,
SANGUINEM FUDIT, LANCASTRIÆ,
IN ANGLIA, 10 SEPTEMBRIS
1641, AETATIS SUAE
ANNO 56.

From a scarce Engraving in the possession of Mr. Joseph Gillow.

date of their death. In the majority of cases it will not be necessary to say anything beyond this; where, however, any further remark seems called for, it shall be given with due regard to brevity. Brothers or relatives of the same name sometimes found their way into different communities; but, as a rule, a connexion once formed with one house rather than another was not often broken. Be it noted, that in the following lists it is not always possible to give the Christian[2] name borne by the monks: where records, &c., are defective, only the "religious" name is given.

At St. Gregory's, Douay.

Year of Profession.		Date of Death.
1607	D. Joseph Haworth, the first monk professed in this community	1624
1609	D. Columban Malone, of an Irish family settled in business at Manchester	Sept. 13, 1623
1614	D. James Gregory Sherburne, third son of Thomas Sherburne, of Little Mitton, Esq.	April 25, 1657
,,	Br. Edmund Arrowsmith, of Haydock, a lay brother	May 27, 1633
1615	D. William Alfonsus Hanson or Hesketh, of Barrowford. He was cruelly put to death by the soldiers of the Parliamentary army in Yorkshire	July 26, 1644
1616	Ven. Edward Ambrose Barlow, of Barlow Hall, near Manchester. He was executed at Lancaster, and his head was impaled on the tower of the Collegiate Church, Manchester, whence it was removed by his cousin, Francis Downes, to Wardley Hall, where it is still carefully preserved	Sept. 10, 1641

[2] Many of these have, since the reading of this paper, been supplied by Mr. Gillow.

1619 D. George Joseph Latham, fifth son of Henry Latham, of Mossborough Hall, Esq. June 11, 1646

1622 D. Vincent Latham, probably John, second son of the aforesaid Henry Latham, Esq. Mar. 3, 1640

1623 D. James Anderton, of Euxton Hall Aug. 27, 1646

1624 D. Christopher Anderton, of Euxton Hall July 11, 1653

1630 D. Robert Theodore Barlow, of Barlow Hall 1633

1639 Br. Benedict Preston Nov. 13, 1640

,, Br. Jerome Hesketh, of Whitehill, Goosnargh Dec. 9, 1640

1676 D. Richard Helme, or Holme, of Goosnargh. He was chaplain to the Molyneux family at Sefton, Croxteth, and Woolton Halls, at which latter place he died. The Chalice given to him by Caryll, third Viscount Molyneux, is described in the 5th vol. (N.S.) of this Society's *Transactions* Dec. 18, 1717

1681 D. Roger Joseph Hesketh, of Whitehill, Goosnargh 1703

1688 D. Francis William Bannester May 16, 1726

,, D. Richard Joseph Ashton, second son of Richard Ashton, of Croston Hall, Esq. Aug. 28, 1700

1698 D. Edward Chorley, second son of Richard Chorley, of Chorley Hall, Esq., who was executed at Preston 9th Feb. 1716, for taking part in the Jacobite rising of 1715 July 14, 1718

1703 D. Thomas Nelson. Feb. 8, 1738

1736 D. Richard Peter Walmesley, of Westwood, Wigan March 12, 1790

1746 D. Thomas Patten, only son of William Patten, of London, by Mary, daughter of Edmund Farnworth, of Runshaw Hall, Gent., who was third son of Thomas Patten, of Patten Lane, Preston, Esq., an ancestor of the late Lord Winmarleigh June 4, 1787

1757 D. William Augustine Caldwell or Walmesley Jan. 8, 1815

,, D. John Ambrose Naylor Nov. 10, 1821

,, D. Francis Bede Anderton, of Euxton July 5, 1779

1758 D. William Gregory Sharrock, of Walton-le-Dale. This distinguished man governed his monastery of St. Gregory from 1775 to 1781, when he was consecrated Bishop, and named Vicar Apostolic of the Western District in England Oct. 7, 1809

1768 D. Charles James Jerome Sharrock, who succeeded his brother as Prior, witnessed the destruction of his monastery, and the restoration of his community in England at Acton Burnell, Shropshire Apl. 1, 1808

1776 D. Richard Bernard Butler, son of Henry Butler, by Mary, daughter of Richard Parkinson, of Leach Hall, Gent.; and grandson of Christopher Butler, of Stalmine Hall, Esq., by Agnes, daughter and sole heir of Thomas Goss, of Stalmine Hall, Esq., twenty-first and youngest son of Richard Butler, of Rawcliffe, Esq. July 2, 1825

1777 Br. Francis Holderness, of Preston, lay brother April 12, 1820

1784 D. Ralph Ainsworth, of Liverpool
Feb. 5, 1814

1785 D. James Higginson, of Wrightington
Dec. 13, 1835

1788 D. John Culshaw, of Latham

1790 D. George Turner, of Hoghton. He was Prior of Downside, 1830 and 1834
Feb. 15, 1854

1792 D. Joseph Bernard Hawarden, of Eccleston
April 21, 1851

At St. Laurence's, at Dieulouard in Lorraine.

Owing to the loss of many of the early records of this community it is often difficult to trace the origin of its professed members; so the following list is probably far from complete.

Year of Profession.		Date of Death.
1625	Br. John Oliver Tootell, of Lower Healey Hall, Esq.	Jan. 8, 1626
1653	D. Bartholomew Gregory Hesketh, son of Gabriel Hesketh, of Whitehill, Goosnargh, Esq.	Jan. 25, 1695
1664	D. Mellitus Hesketh, of Whitehill	Jan. 12, 1674
1666	D. Augustine Mather, of Fishwick Hall	June 4, 1687
1668	D. Nicholas Hesketh, of Whitehill	May 10, 1688
1679	D. Melitus Walmesley	July 2, 1689
1686	D. Vincent Craven	Dec. 9, 1704
1701	D. Ralph Cuthbert Farnworth, of Runshaw Hall	Jan. 1, 1754
1711	D. William Placid Naylor, of Scarisbrick	Nov. 8, 1772

1713 D. Robert Edward Hoghton, younger son of William Hoghton, of Parkhall, Esq., by Elizabeth, daughter and ultimately sole heiress of Robert Dalton, of Thurnham Hall, Esq. Aug. 26, 1751

1725 D. Edward Bernard Catterall, of Samlesbury Sep. 9, 1781

1726 D. John Fisher Jan. 27, 1793

1727 D. Augustine Gregson. The original patronymic of this family was Normanton, and its residence Normanton Hall, Yorkshire, whence it migrated to Balderston in Lancashire, and took the name of Gregson July 17, 1779

1735 D. James Ambrose Kaye, chaplain to the Viscounts Molyneux at Sefton from 1742 to 1754 June 30, 1777

,, D. Robert Daniel, of Whittingham Sept. 12, 1781

1736 D. John Benedict Simpson, or Daniel July 10, 1775

1737 D. James Bernard Price, of Standish Jan. 4, 1767

D. Peter Wilcock, of Thorp Green, Brindle March 11, 1776

D. John Nicholas Richardson May 15, 1762

1741 D. Richard Vincent Gregson, chaplain at Sefton from 1754 to 1792 Sept. 10, 1800

1743 D. John Placid Naylor, son of Charles Naylor Jan. 16, 1795

1749 D. Edward Alexis Pope or Fisher Oct. 9, 1777

1751 D. Richard Benedict Simpson, of Preston May 2, 1801

1751 D. John Anselm Bolton, of Brindle. His name is connected with one of the very latest, if not the last, of the trials for high treason, to which Catholic priests were liable till the end of the eighteenth century. During the time he was chaplain and incumbent at Gilling Castle, Yorkshire (1764-1793), he was, through the ill-will of a discharged bailiff, accused and tried for his priesthood; but, to the credit of the court, was acquitted Dec. 22, 1805

,, D. Richard Maurus Barrett, fell a victim to the French revolutionary outbreak; having retired to Dieulouard, after some years of missionary work in England, he was arrested at the commencement of the Revolution, and put in prison at Pont-a-Mousson, where he died Dec. 3, 1794

From 1751 till the end of the century the number of Lancastrians who joined St. Laurence's was ever on the increase; indeed, with scarcely half a dozen exceptions, the community was recruited exclusively from this county.

1755 D. Oswald Eaves, of Ashton-on-Ribble, grandson of Oswald Eyves, of Fishwick Hall, Preston, Gent. Oct. 15, 1793

1758 D. John Bede Brewer, D.D., of Ribbleton Lodge, Preston. He was President of the English Benedictines from 1799 till his death April 18, 1822

1759 D. John Thomas Turner, of Walton-le-Dale Aug. 1, 1802

,, D. Thomas Jerome Marsh, of Hindley Feb. 16, 1798

1760 D. John Bernard Slater, of Shevington, Standish March 13, 1810

1761 D. Ambrose Waring, of Brindle Feb. 2, 1776
1766 D. Richard Edward Fisher Jan. 15, 1824
,, D. John Basil Brindle, of Clayton Dec. 12, 1802
,, D. Anselm Bromley, of Liverpool Nov. 27, 1779
1775 D. John Dunstan Sharrock, of Walton-le-Dale May 7, 1831
,, D. Thomas Jerome Coupe, of South Hill, Chorley May 22, 1827
1776 D. James Alexius Pope Feb. 19, 1837
1777 D. Thomas Slater, of Shevington Aug. 31, 1801
1778 D. Edmund Pennington June 1, 1794
1781 D. Richard Pope July 24, 1828
1783 D. Richard Marsh, of Hindley. He was President of the English Benedictines from 1822-26, and again from 1837-42, and was of service to his brethren in many important affairs. This distinguished man died at Rixton, Lancashire Feb. 23, 1843
1788 D. Thomas Anselm Appleton June 1, 1842
1789 D. James Bede Burgess, of Clayton Green Aug. 22, 1837
D. James Oswald Talbot April 21, 1847
1791 D. John Dawber, of Standish June 7, 1810
1792 D. James Calderbank, of Liverpool April 9, 1821
,, D. Lewis Francis Cooper, of Walton-le-Dale May 9, 1850
,, D. William Alexius Chew, of Fulwood Feb. 25, 1832
1793 D. Richard Benedict Marsh, of Hindley Oct. 27, 1795

At St. Edmund's, Paris.

Year of Profession.		Date of Death.
1622	D. Gabriel Latham, the first monk professed at this monastery, at present unidentified	March 31, 1635
1630	D. Thomas Anderton, of Euxton Hall	Oct. 9, 1671
1640	D. Henry Augustine Latham, younger son of Henry Latham, of Mossborough Hall, Esq., by Frances, daughter of Richard Molyneux, Esq., second son of Sir Richard Molyneux, of Sefton, by Eleanor, daughter of Sir Alexander Radcliffe, of Ordsall	Nov. 13, 1677
,,	D. William Benedict Nelson, of Fairhurst Hall	Sep. 3, 1699
,,	D. Edmund Wolstan Shuttleworth or Dalton, of Bedford, Lanc.	May 17, 1677
1642	D. Richard Bede Hoghton, or Farnaby, second son of William Hoghton, of Park Hall in Heath Charnock, Esq.	1687
1652	D. Joseph Sherburne	Ap. 9, 1697
1653	D. John Girlington, of Thurland	Aug. 15, 1729
1660	D. Ralph James Nelson, of Mawdesley	Jan. 9, 1707
,,	D. Bede Sherburne	Oct. 22, 1663
1673	D. Cuthbert Parker, of Myrescough	Oct. 30, 1705
,,	D. Thomas Hesketh, of Mawdesley; probably of the Maynes Hall family	Oct. 22, 1694
1679	D. Richard Placid Nelson, of Fairhurst Hall	Jan. 26, 1724
1681	D. Maurus Nelson, 3rd son of Thomas Nelson, of Fairhurst Hall in Wrightington, Esq.	May 3, 1690

1683 D. Edmund Hawett, of Ormskirk. He went to Ireland as chaplain to Col. Parker's regiment, and died in Dublin, Feb. 4, 1688, and received there very honourable burial.

,, D. Henry Anselm Nelson, of Fairhurst Hall[3] 1717

1685 D. Martin Stone, of Euxton Sept. 30, 1694

,, D. Farrington Dunstan Lake, of Wavertree. This father passed to the austere monastery of La Grande Trappe, and there died.

1696 D. William Placid Anderton, of Euxton Hall Ap. 4, 1718

,, D. John Jerome Farnworth, of Runshaw Hall Feb. 9, 1711

1699 D. Arthur Alban Ashton, of Warrington Ap. 8, 1748

,, D. Thomas Wilfrid Helme of Goosnargh Jan. 2, 1742

1708 D. Joseph Roscow, of Runshaw, in Leyland July 27, 1709

1725 D. Richard Placid Ashton, of Warrington Ap. 26, 1761

1731 D. Evan Anselm Eastham, of Walton-le-Dale May 13, 1774

,, D. Abraham Maurus Coupe, son of Richard Coupe, of Ollerton in Leyland March 14, 1753

1739 D. Charles Walmesley, of Westwood, Wigan. After holding the office of Prior of St. Edmund's, Paris (1749-1753), and Procurator of the Benedictines in Rome (1754), Dr. Walmesley (he had received the doctor's

3 About this period there were two families of the name of Nelson, one at Fairhurst Hall and one at Mawdesley, in which the same Christian names constantly recur. The Nelson Benedictines in these lists cannot be positively identified.—J. G.

cap at the Sorbonne), was appointed coadjutor to Bishop York, Vicar Apostolic of the western district in England, and succeeded to the vicariate in 1764. He died Nov. 25, 1797. His mathematical attainments were of the highest order, and he was one of those consulted when it was proposed to introduce the New Style or reformed calendar. His commentary on the Apocalypse, published under the name of Pastorini, has been frequently reprinted, and translated into several languages.

1739 D. George James Crook, of Chorley Aug. 4, 1770

1743 D. George Augustine Walker, of Hindley. After filling the post of Prior of St. Edmund's, Paris (1753-57), and Procurator of his brethren at the Holy See (1757-1777), he was elected President-General of the English Benedictines, and held the office till his death (1777-1794), which occurred during his imprisonment at Compiégne during the French Revolution; at the age of 74 years Jan. 13, 1794

,, D. Alexander Benedict Catterall July 31, 1791

1744 D. Thomas Welch Aug. 20, 1790

1746 D. John Cuthbert Simpson, of Preston Nov. 1, 1785

1750 Lay brother Joseph Valentine, of Samlesbury Nov. 1, 1798

1751 D. Robert Augustine Kellet, of Woodplumpton June 8, 1809

,, D. William Gregory Gregson, of Samlesbury Oct. 18, 1800

1753 D. Benedict Harsnep, of Ormskirk Sep. 5, 1760

1753 D. William Dunstan Garstang, of Brindle Jan. 12, 1814

1757 D. Richard Bede Barton, of Weeton Oct. 19, 1790

1760 D. George Edmund Duckett, of Claughton Mar. 24 1792

1764 D. Benedict Cawser, of Ormskirk, died in prison, Paris Jan. 9, 1794

1769 D. Andrew Bernard Ryding, of Wigan Sep. 26, 1841

1773 D. Henry Parker, of Kirkham, who became the last prior of his house before its suppression at the French Revolution. (See *Haydock Papers.*) July 8, 1817

1779 D. James Berry, of Wigan Nov. 4, 1786

1781 D. John Atkinson, of Ashton Ap. 5, 1822

1786 D. John Turner, of Woolston July 13, 1844

,, D. Francis Beswick, of St. Helens, died in prison at Paris during the French Revolution Oct. 19, 1793

1788 D. Peter Marsh of Hindley Mar. 4, 1853

,, D. Daniel Spencer, of Crosby, the last Edmundian professed in the old home of the community in the Rue S. Jacques, Paris Oct. 23, 1794

At Lambspring, near Hildesheim, in the Abbey of SS. Adrian and Denis.

1668 D. William Cuthbert Marsh,[4] *alias* Marshall or Wall. This monk was accused in Oates' riot, tried for his life, and acquitted (1679). He was at once re-arrested, tried for priesthood, and sentenced to death, but was reprieved and kept in prison till 1685. He died at Lambspring Oct. 4, 1704

4 Some authorities say he was born in Norfolk.

1674 D. John Townson, D.D., the historian of Lambspring July 4, 1718

1683 D. Obed Alban Dawney. He resided in Rome, as Procurator of the order (1725-33), and was titular Abbot of Rintelin, in Westphalia, a monastery which the English monks were able to maintain but for a few months Feb. 17, 1733

1685 D. John Richard Isherwood or Sherburne Jan. 3, 1745

1688 D. Thomas Augustine Townson March 8, 1722

1709 D. John Michael Anderton, of Hardhill

1740 D. Robert Augustine Turner, of Mawdesley July 30, 1757

,, D. William Maurus Heatley, of Samlesbury. He had governed the house as Abbot for forty years Aug. 15, 1802

1748 Lay brother George Jerome Clarkson, of Brindle July 27, 1769

1756 D. Roger Boniface Hall Oct. 16, 1803

1758 D. Thomas Benedict Garner, of Barton Jan. 29, 1796

1760 D. Daniel Bernard Young, of Ormskirk Sept. 6, 1801

1770 D. Thomas Placid Harsnep, of Ormskirk March 25, 1807

1771 D. George Joseph Crook *alias* Gregson, of Chorley Jan. 10, 1800

,, D. Matthew Denis Allerton, of Ormskirk Aug. 26, 1829

1772 D. Charles Boniface Taylor, of Goosnargh April 27, 1812

,, D. James Oswald Johnson, of Wrightington Oct. 9, 1818

1774 D. William Clement Grimbaldeston, of Alston
Oct. 17, 1824
1776 D. John Louis Heatley, of Samlesbury
May 9, 1805
1777 D. Hugh Jerome Heatley, of Preston
Ap. 28, 1792
,, D. Joseph Paul Grimbaldeston, of Alston
Aug. 25, 1807
1787 D. Thomas Anselm Kenyon, of Warrington
July 28, 1850
,, D. Edward Alban Clarkson of Goosnargh
July 16, 1815
,, D. John Vincent Wearden, of Walton
July 10, 1801
1788 D. John Lawrence Forshaw, of Ormskirk
Dec. 5, 1815
1790 D. James Cyril Mather, of Goosnargh
March 12, 1812
1792 D. William Jerome Alcock, of Warrington
June 1, 1819
,, D. John Boniface Taylor, of Altcar
Jan. 11, 1805
1796 D. George Cyprian Kearton, of Ormskirk
Aug. 28, 1823
,, D. John Augustine Birdsall, of Liverpool. He was president of the English Benedictines from 1827 till his death Aug. 2, 1837
1798 D. Benedict Lacabanne, of Preston
,, D. John Bede Rigby, of Warrington
Jan. 15, 1837
1802 D. Richard Adrian Towers, of Preston. He was the last monk to take his vows at Lambspring before its suppression by the Prussians. He died at Poole, in Dorsetshire March 5, 1844

The above names, 164 in number, exhaust the list of Lancastrians professed among the English Benedictines from the first foundation of their houses abroad till their overthrow at the end of the eighteenth century. To analyse them a little more carefully:—At St. Gregory's, Douay, 33 were professed of the total number of 242 choir monks belonging to that monastery during the period under consideration; at St. Laurence's, in Lorraine, 49 out of 155; at St. Edmund's, Paris, the proportion was even higher, 49 out of 126; at the abbey of Lambspring it was 33 out of 150; or a total of 164 out of 673. If the lay brethren be added, 76 in all, the result will be slightly modified —164 from a grand total of 749; or, to put it in another way, slightly over a fourth of the whole body of English Benedictine monks during two centuries claimed Lancashire as its birthplace.

Benedictine Mission Stations in Lancashire.

[N.B.—The letters, A.D., E., G., L., affixed to the names in the following lists, indicate the place of profession: the monasteries, namely, of SS. Adrian and Denis, at Lambspring; St. Edmund, at Paris; St. Gregory, at Douay; and St. Laurence, at Dieulouard.]

Our second duty is to examine into the missionary work undertaken by the Benedictines within the boundaries of the county. The task is not an easy one, as the existing papers on which the value of our investigations depends are not easily accessible. In default of fuller and more accurate information, which we trust may be forthcoming in the future, the following outline may be conditionally acceptable.

A word or two of further introduction. In the early days of their missionary work, the Catholic clergy, and the Benedictines among them, had but seldom any fixed residence. They were glad to find shelter where they could, in the halls and

manor houses of the upper classes, or in the farms of the yeomanry. Upper chambers and barns were the only churches; secrecy a condition, not alone of success, but of very existence. With all the forces of the law and State Church against them, with fines and imprisonment as their lot, if it became known that they were harbouring priests, we cannot fail to admire the courage with which, during a long period of harassing penal laws, the Lancashire Catholics, high and low, maintained their priests among them. As for the priests themselves, whether of the secular clergy or of the Jesuits or Benedictines, they seem to have taken all the perils and dangers of their life with unvarying pluck and calmness; the arrest, imprisonment, and execution of many of them, far from damping their zeal, seems to have lent new courage to their labours, and bore its fruit in the formation of a numerous and soundly Catholic population such as we may seek in vain in less favoured districts.

At first the Benedictine missioners seem to have had no fixed limits for their work; later on, something in the nature of parishes, or recognised spheres of work, came to be the rule, till at the present day the various ecclesiastical districts which they administer are parishes in all but the name.

To the early period, when the pioneers of the Benedictines found their way into Lancashire and laboured wherever opportunity served, belong a group of some ten names, of whose whereabouts during most of the time they were in the county we have no certain information. As will be seen from the dates, there were cases of this "unattached" mission work as late as the beginning of the eighteenth century.

At the outset two names of Englishmen, professed in Spain, meet us as working among the

Lancashire Catholics—D. Andrew Sherley, *d.* Ap. 14, 1609, and D. Maurus Hanson, *d.* Mar. 15, 1630. The third on our list is a name better known, a member of a distinguished county family, the Ven. Ambrose or Edward Barlow, of Barlow Hall. He laboured for the most part among the poorer classes, and chiefly to the west of Manchester, as need or opportunity served going further a-field to Warrington, Winwick, Eccles, Wardley, and other districts. Arrested and condemned as a priest, he was put to death at Lancaster, with the horrible brutality then the custom, on September 20, 1641.

Others soon took his place. D. Mellitus Hesketh, L., *d.* Jan. 22, 1674; D. Richard Holme, G., 1680 till 1697, when he settled at Sefton; D. Jerome Wilson, G., *c.* 1685-1703; D. Francis Watmough, L., *c.* 1690-1698; D. Joseph Kennet, L., *d.* Dec. 29, 1709; D. Bernard Bartlett, G., *c.* 1710; and D. Jerome Farnworth, E., *d.* Feb. 9, 1711.

Perhaps, when fuller investigation has been made into the manuscript materials scattered up and down the county and elsewhere, we may be able to trace with greater accuracy the movements of the above. To come to the more stable centres of mission work:—

WESTBY HALL.—An old residence of the Clifton family, abandoned as such after the death of Col. Cuthbert Clifton in 1641; but a priest was maintained there or in the neighbourhood all through the days of persecution. It was one of the earliest residences in Lancashire of the Benedictines, and on April 6, 1641, Dom Gervase Gray (whose real name was probably Clifton) died there, when the Roundheads were in possession, and able to hold it against their enemies. Others of the order probably served the place at intervals till D. Richard Bernard Butler's (G.) arrival there in 1791. With

his retirement in 1821, its connexion with the order came to an end. On 13th Jan. 1716, Fr. Edward Barrow, S.J., was hunted from there.[5] Dom Peter Athanasius Allenson served at the chapel for a short period about the year 1828. In 1845 the chapel was closed by the Cliftons, who had joined the Established Church some years before.

MOSSBOROUGH HALL, in Rainford.—For generations the seat of the Lathams. About 1660, Frances, daughter and heiress of William Latham, of Mossborough Hall, Esq., married Robert Molyneux, of The Wood in Melling, Esq., by whom she had two sons, Robert, who registered his estate, value £310 4*s.* 1¾*d.* a year, as a papist in 1717, and died without issue in 1728; and William, who married Frances, daughter of James Gorsuch, of Gorsuch, and died in 1745, leaving an only daughter, Frances, who married Mr., afterwards Sir Edward Blount, of Sodington and Mawley, Bart., and died without issue in 1765: after which the property was purchased by the then Earl of Derby, and the hall pulled down. A modern farm-house now occupies its site, but traces of the moat and a dated stone from the previous building are still to be seen there. It was reported in 1717 to the Commissioners for Forfeited Estates by one Richard Hitchmough, that about 1716 "he had seen "and used when officiating as a priest at Mos-"borough Hall, the seat of Robert Molyneux, Esq., "one silver chalice and paten"; and it was further reported by one John Thornton, of Croston, that "there was one Ball, a priest resident at . . . "Molineux, of Mosborough Hall near Prescot." Many members of the Latham family are to be found in the foregoing lists, one of whom, D. Swithbert Latham, L., died at Mossborough, Dec. 15, 1640.

5 See *Haydock Papers*, pp. 232—9.

LEIGH.—At Leigh there died, June 4, 1687, D. Augustine Mather, L., missioner to the Catholics round about. Hop Carr, in the parish of Leigh, the seat of the Sale family, was an old chaplaincy; but it is more probable that the Benedictine was at Bedford Leigh, the seat of the Shuttleworths.

WOOLSTON HALL, near Warrington, was for many years served by the Benedictines. It was an ancient brick edifice, in which was a Catholic chapel of the Standish family. The building was pulled down in the first half of this century. The succession, so far as I can ascertain, is as follows:—

16....-1719 D. Jerome Wilson, G., who died here Sept. 8, 1719.

In 1707 D. Lewis Lawrence Fenwick was here.

1719-1735 D. Anselm Walmesley, L., who died at Ormskirk, May 12, 1735.

1735-1771 D. Thomas Benedict Shuttleworth, A.D., who removed to Warrington.

1771-1779 D. Thomas John Turner, L.

1779-1783 D. James Maurus Chaplin, A.D.

1783-1824 D. William Clement Grimbaldeston, A.D., who died there on Oct. 17 in the latter year.

1826-1831 D. Richard Marsh; was the last Benedictine stationed at Woolston. He removed to Rixton not many miles away, and the mission at Woolston has since been served by the secular clergy.

The chaplaincies which owed their inception, and for many years most of their maintenance, to the Molyneux family are here grouped together:—

SEFTON.—The chaplaincy at Sefton Hall was probably maintained by the Molyneux family all through the times of persecution. For the first hundred years, however, the names of the missioners are not recorded. The first we know of

is D. Thurstan Celestine Anderton, who was at Sefton for many years, and died there in 1697. He was succeeded by D. Richard Helme, or Holme, who went to live at Woolton Hall during the Jacobite troubles of 1715-16, where he died in 1717. Sefton was then served by the Discalced Carmelites, of whom Father Cuerden was here, if not in 1718, certainly from 1725 till his death or departure in 1742. The Carmelite friars were succeeded by the Benedictines, D. James Ambrose Kaye being here from 1742 to 1754; in which latter year D. Richard Vincent Gregson[6] came. Here Bishop Wilson confirmed 200 in June, 1774; and in 1784 the communicants were returned at 156. When the eighth Viscount Molyneux conformed to the Established Church, in March, 1769, he promised not to disturb Father Gregson at Sefton during his life; but in 1792 the Father persuaded his lordship to allot a piece of land at Netherton, for the establishment of an independent chapel for the Catholics of the neighbourhood. On this site Father Gregson erected a commodious house and chapel, the principal benefactors being the Hon. Mrs. Mary Molyneux, James Bastwell, of Ormskirk, and the Father himself. The chapel was opened 29 June, 1793.

NETHERTON was served by Fr. Gregson till his death there, Sept. 10, 1800. The succession of incumbents since that date is as follows :—

1800-1804 Rev. Stephen Hodgson, L., assisted for a time by Rev. Laurence Hadley, G.

1804-1828 Rev. Richard Pope, L., who died there July 24, 1828, and was buried just outside the south aisle of Sefton Church. The inscription on his gravestone was recently

6 Steward's accounts for year 1758 :—"Mr. Gregson, for serving Sefton half-a-year, £10."—*Molyneux Muniments at Croxteth.*—ED.

re-cut at the cost of Mr. W. E. Gregson, now Hon. Treas. Hist. Soc. of Lanc. and Chesh.

1828-1830 Hon. and Rev. Augustine Clifford, L.

1830-1867 Rev. Ignatius Abram, G.; died there December 17, 1867.

1868-1870 Rev. George Alban Caldwell, L., died January 15, 1870.

The later incumbents' names will be found in the Croxteth Catholic Directories.

CROXTETH HALL.—Here a chaplaincy was probably maintained by the Molyneux family during the times of persecution. The names of some of the earlier chaplains are still wanting. In all probability the Rev. John Birtwistle, who came from Valladolid in 1600, served here till his death, when he was buried at Harkirk 26 Feb. 1620; Rev. Thomas Fazakerley, *alias* Ashton, came from Rome in 1636, died here 22nd March, 1664-5, and was buried at Harkirk; Rev. John Birtwistle died here 26 Jan. 1680, and was buried at Harkirk; Rev. Thomas Martin, a native of Ireland, died here, and was buried at Harkirk 11 June, 1691; Father Albert Babthorpe, S.J., was here in 1701-4, but was probably tutor in the family, for the chaplaincy was served by the secular clergy; Rev. Richard Hitchmough, *alias* Barker, the notorious apostate, informer, and pursuivant, states that he was chaplain here in 1709. He had become an apostate in 1714, and was rewarded for his treachery with the vicarage of Whenby in Yorkshire, part of the sequestrated property of "the loyal" Sir Edward Radcliffe, of Dilston and Derwentwater, Bart., whose property the advowson had become, in consequence of his marriage with Elizabeth, only daughter and heiress of Thomas Barton, of Whenby, Esq. In 1717 Hitchmough

informed the Commissioners for Forfeited Estates that "at Croxteth, in the hundred of Derby, in the "county of Lancaster, the seat of the Rt. Hon. "William, Viscount Molyneux, were one large "silver chalice double gilt within with gold; one "large paten of pure gold; two silver crucibles, "*alias* cruets, for wine and water; one silver plate, "upon which the said crucibles used to stand; six "tall silver candlesticks; and a large silver cruci-"fix, the whole solid silver; and which the Lady "Molineux, first wife to his present lordship, told "this deponent cost his lordship four hundred "pounds in London. All the above plate this "deponent says he saw often in the year 1709, at "which time he officiated there as chaplain to his "lordship."

Father Thomas Worthington, O.P., was here from 1713 to 1717-8, when the fourth Viscount died; Rev. Richard Jameson, who was serving the mission at Bardsea, a hunting seat of Lord Molyneux, till the troubles of 1715-6, when he fled to Ashton, probably succeeded Father Worthington; Father Richard Billinge, S.J., was here on 5 Mar. 1720; and Father John Cuerden, of the Discalced Carmelites, served here from Sefton from Sept. 1726. Meanwhile, Father William Molyneux, S.J., subsequently came to Lancashire, and is said to have established a mission at Scholes, near Prescot. If so, he did not at first serve that mission, for Father John Busby, *alias* Brown, S.J., was there in 1716. In Nov. 1728 Bishop Williams confirmed 207 persons here. Rev. Robert Kendal came to Croxteth in or about 1733, and died there 19 April, 1746, aged 45, and was buried at Sefton as "Priest from Crocksteth." Caryll, the sixth Viscount, having died a few months before Mr. Kendal, was succeeded by Father William Molyneux, S.J., who transferred the chaplaincy to his own order. Father Charles

Dormer, S.J., sixth Lord Dormer, was appointed 27 Jan. 1747, and removed to Poole Hall, Cheshire, in Sept. 1750; Father John Bodenham, S.J., came 16 Sept. 1750, and died here 29 Oct. 1750; Father Sebastian Redford, Redman, or Exton, S.J., was appointed 24 Nov. 1750, and stayed till 1756. Father Molyneux, who did not assume the title, continued to live at Scholes. The chaplaincy at the hall was then transferred to the Benedictines, who had long served that at Sefton Hall. Dom Bernard Bennet Bolas[7] came in 1756, and remained at Croxteth until 1769; in which year the eighth Viscount Molyneux, who had just conformed to the Established Church, caused a house to be built up to the end of a farm-house at Gillmoss, and converted some rooms in the latter into a chapel, to be used in place of the one at the hall.

GILLMOSS mission was served by Father Bolas till his death, 30 Jan. 1773. Father Joseph Emmott, S.J., succeeded him at the special request of the Earl of Sefton, who had been under this Father while at St. Omer's College. Father Emmott died here 14 Nov. 1816, aged 82. In 1774 Bishop Walton confirmed 200 persons here. Since then the mission has been served by the Jesuits, until it was transferred to the secular clergy in 1887.

WOOLTON (MUCH.)—For the past two hundred years the Catholics of Woolton and its neighbourhood have had the services of the Benedictines; the missioner resided sometimes at Childwall and sometimes at Woolton, and the chief support was provided by the Catholic members of the Molyneux family of Sefton, Croxteth, and Woolton Halls. The Woolton Hall estate, consisting of the hall and some 370 acres of land, was bought from the

7 In the steward's accounts for year 1755 appears this entry:—"Mr. Bolas "for serving Croxteth a year £20."—*Molyneux Muniments at Croxteth.*—ED.

Brettargh family by Richard, eldest son of William, fourth Viscount Molyneux, before 1717; for in that year "as a papist" he registered his estate there of the annual value of £100. He succeeded to the viscounty in 1718, but hardly, if ever, resided at Croxteth, as documents preserved at that place pretty conclusively prove. His widow (born Mary Brudenell) continued to live at Woolton till her death, her burial at Sefton on 20th March, 1766, being recorded in the registers there, wherein she is described as "from Woolton." Shortly before her death, and, no doubt, conscious that when it occurred the Woolton estate would pass out of Molyneux hands, and in order to provide for the continuance of the mission heretofore held within Woolton Hall, in 1765 she gave several acres of ground to the Order of St. Benedict, and largely assisted the monks to build on a portion of the land the church and presbytery in Watergate Lane known as Woolton Priory.

In 1715 Dom Richard Helme, or Holme, came from Sefton Hall, where he had been chaplain, to take up a similar position at Woolton, and here he died, 18th Dec. 1717. It was to him, while at Sefton, that Caryll, third Viscount Molyneux, gave a silver chalice, inscribed with their names and the date, 1697, which was exhibited at a meeting of this Society, 20th Feb. 1890, and is described in the 5th vol. (N.S.) of the *Transactions*. The succession of clergy is a little difficult to determine for some years. A "Mr. Roper" removed hence to "Barkshire" in 1730. Fr. Holme was succeeded by Dom Laurence Kirby, who remained till 1731, when Dom William Laurence Champney, L., came, who died at Woolton, April 21, 1732.

1732-1735 D. Thomas Placid Hutton, A.D., who died at Woolton, May 17, 1755. About the

same time D. Laurence Kirby, L., was at Childwall, and died there July 18, 1743

1753-1781 D. Edward Bernard Catterall, L., served first Childwall and then Much Woolton. In 1765 he took up his abode permanently in Woolton, and remained there till his death, Sept. 9, 1781

1781-1819 D. John Bede Brewer, L., resided in Woolton for about 38 years; chosen President of the English Benedictines, 1799, and holding the office till his death, which occurred at Woolton, Apl. 18, 1822, he was frequently obliged to absent himself from the mission. He was buried in St. Peter's, Seel Street, Liverpool. From 1801-1808 he was assisted by D. James Maurus Chaplin, A.D., and from 1813-1816 by D. Stephen Hodgson, L., who died here April 9, 1816.

From 1795 to 1807 a community of English Benedictine nuns, from Cambrai, was established in the village, removing, in the latter year, to Abbot's Salford, in Warwickshire, and thence, in 1838, to Stanbrook, near Worcester. During the closing years of their stay at Woolton, D. Ralph Maurus Shaw, E., acted as their chaplain and assistant to Dr. Brewer.

1819-1821 D. James Calderbank, L., was incumbent, dying here on April 9, 1821.

1821-1824 D. John Jerome Jenkins, G.

1824-1855 D. Samuel Maurus Phillips, G. He died there on April 5, in the latter year.

1855-1862 D. Richard Placid Burchall, E. The old chapel in Watergate Lane having become too small for the congregation attending it, the present church of St. Mary, on the high ground near the parish church, was erected

by Dr. Burchall, and opened on October 28, 1860. The old presbytery is still standing, and let to tenants. Dr. Burchall died at Woolton, March 7, 1885, when he was succeeded by Dom John Placid O'Brien.

HINDLEY, LOW, AND STRANGWAYS.—The chaplaincies at Park Hall in Charnock Richard, the seat of the Hoghtons, Low Hall, the seat of the Langtons, and Strangways in Hindley, the property of the Culcheth family, may be said to be the predecessors of the modern Hindley mission, where a chapel was built in 1788, and the present new church opened in 1870. In 1592 a spy reported that Mr. Richard Hoghton, of Park Hall, had kept a recusant schoolmaster (*i.e.* priest) there for about twenty years, and that there had been several there. From 1577 to about 1580 the Rev. Lawrence Johnson, *alias* Richardson, a secular priest who was executed at Tyburn in 1582, was chaplain to the Hoghtons. He was probably succeeded at the Hall by the Rev. Richard Scholes, and a priest named ffawcett. In the reign of Charles II, Dom Richard Bede Hoghton was apparently serving the mission here; and for many years before his death in 1717, aged 80 years, the Rev. Edward Booth, *alias* Barlow, was priest at Park Hall. There is a tradition that at either Park Hall or Low Hall a priest was taken while celebrating the Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve, and whilst attempting to escape, the fringe of his stole was caught in a door, and betrayed him. The Benedictine mission of Hindley dates back to the last years of the eighteenth century, and the first of the order resident in the neighbourhood was Dom John Placid Acton, G., who was stationed at Low Hall about 1699, and died there, on Nov. 25, 1727. In 1720 Dom Edward Hoghton took charge of Park Hall; after Father Acton's

death he served both Low and Strangways, to which latter place he removed the mission. He died at Park Hall, Aug. 26, 1751. The Rev. Edward Bamber, *alias* Reading, a secular priest who was executed at Lancaster, 7 Aug. 1746, is thought to have served the mission at Park Hall. Between 1751 and 1758 the mission seems to have been served from Standish Hall.

1758-1773 D. Evan Anselm Eastham, E.

1773-1792 D. George Edmund Duckett, E. He removed the chapel from Strangways and settled at Hindley in 1789, and died there March 24, 1792.

In 1784 Bishop Matthew Gibson confirmed 59 at Strangways, where were 259 communicants.

HINDLEY.—

1792-1793 D. John Placid Bennet, L.
1792-1797 D. Andrew Bernard Ryding, E.
1797-1801 D. William Dunstan Webb, A.D.
1801-1805 D. John Laurence Forshaw, A.D.
1805-1806 D. Richard Marsh, L.
1806-1836 D. Thomas Anselm Appleton, L.; came here on resigning the Priorship of Ampleforth
1836-1862 D. William Placid Corlett, L.
1862-1864 D. Richard Cyprian Tyrer, L.

AIGBURTH.—Aigburth, or Grassendale, now a suburb of Liverpool, was established in 1837 or 1838; where, long years before, there had been a chapel, when it was the seat of the Harrington family, to whom, in 1715, Dom William Philipson was chaplain. In 1717 Richard Hitchmough deposed before the Commissioners for Forfeited Estates that "at Mrs. Harrington's, of Aigburth, "co. Lanc., was one silver chalice and paten, which "he had seen and used when officiating at the "altar there."

1837-1841 D. Richard Ambrose Prest, L.
1842-1843 D. Christopher Austin Shann, L.
1845-1849 D. Samuel Bede Day, L.
1849-1850 D. Ambrose Brindle, L.
1850-1853 D. Austin Shann, a second time.
1853-1858 D. Ambrose Prest, a second time.
1858-1864 D. James Hilary Dowding, L., who died there December 15, 1864.

STANDISH HALL, near Wigan, the seat of the Standish family. A priest had usually resided here from the time of Elizabeth; and the old chapel, built by Edward Standish in 1574 and restored in 1742, but now disused, is still standing. Among the Catholic associations of the place must be mentioned that it was visited by the famous Jesuit martyr, B. Edmund Campion, and that the Ven. Edward Bamber, who also suffered for his priesthood, was arrested near here. A pre-Reformation chasuble and chalice are preserved in the new church, which was opened in 1884. In 1588 a spy reported that Alexander Gardiner, a seminary priest, "useth the parish of Standish." In 1716 the Rev. Thomas Brockholes was priest here. From 1726 to January, 1728, Father James Dominic Darbyshire, O.P., was here; and in the latter year it is probable that the Benedictines first came to this mission in the person of Dom Richard Bernard Bartlett. In 1774 Bishop Walton confirmed 247 persons here; and in 1784 Bishop Matthew Gibson confirmed 38.

1741-1743 D. John Fisher, L.
1743-1744 D. James Joseph Legrand, A.D.
1744-1757 D. James Bernard Price, L.; a native of the place, was stationed here in 1744; in 1757 he was chosen Prior of St. Edmund's and removed to Paris, where he continued till 1765; he died at Ugbrooke, Lord Clifford's seat in Devonshire, Jan. 4, 1767.

1757-1767
1767-1769 D. Thomas Patten, G.
1769-1770 D. Anselm Bernard Bradshaw, A.D.
1770-1783 D. Archibald Benedict Macdonald, G., who left to take charge of the Catholic congregation in Liverpool
1783-1786 D. James Maurus Chaplin, A.D.
1786-1812 D. Edward Richard Fisher, L.
1812-1816 D. Samuel Austin Mitchell, L.; he died here May 6, 1816.
1816-1822 D. Samuel Bede Day, L.
1822-1831 D. James Ambrose Duck, G. During the years 1822-24 he was assisted by Revs. S. M. Phillips and J. J. Jenkins.
1831-1840 D. James Ignatius Greenough, E.; he died here May 26, 1840.
1840-1862 D. Richard Cyprian Tyrer, L.
1862-1872 D. William Placid Corlett, L., who died at Brindle, Sept. 8, 1872.
1872-1873 D. William Alfonsus Fleming, E.; on whose removal to Whitehaven, Cumberland, the Benedictine connexion with Standish Hall came to an end.

ORMSKIRK.—In or about the year 1732 a Benedictine, D. Bertram Maurus Bulmer, L., came to reside at Ormskirk; he died there Sept. 10, 1788.

1781-1800 D. Joseph George Crook, A.D., came to assist Fr. Bulmer, and on his death succeeded to the incumbency, dying at Ormskirk Jan. 10, 1800.
1800-1845 D. James Oswald Talbot, L., was the next priest-in-charge. He withdrew to Southport, where he died, April 21, 1847.
1844-1856 D. George Alban Caldwell, L., who between 1854-1858 was assisted by D. Christopher Austin Shann, L.
1856-1858 D. James Hilary Dowding L.

1858-1865 D. Charles Francis Kershaw, A.D., who died there, March 14, 1865.

From the year 1854 there have usually been one or two assistants to the incumbent of this important mission. The new church of St. Anne was opened 7 Aug. 1850.

In 1586 John Law, a seminary priest, was reported to be in Ormskirk; and in 1713 Mr. Blundell, of Crosby, mentions in his diary Mr. Shaw, a priest at Ormskirk. After the Jacobite rising of 1745, the chapel and mission house were attacked and partially burnt down by the mob. Recently, one of Father Bulmer's devotional books, showing signs of having been in a fire, was offered for sale to Mr. Joseph Gillow by a Manchester bookseller. In 1784 Bishop Matthew Gibson confirmed 94 persons here, at which time the communicants numbered 260.

WARRINGTON, for many years one of the chief centres of Benedictine work in south Lancashire, was served at times by the Ven. Ambrose Barlow, previously mentioned. In 1735 Fr. Richard Smith, *alias* Savile, S.J., seems to have served Warrington. It has been a residence of members of the Benedictine Order since 1771, when D. Benedict Shuttleworth, A.D., removed hither from the neighbouring mission of Woolston, whence they brought the old register from Standish Hall. Many of its incumbents were members of the abbey of Lambspring.

1771-1774 D. Thomas Benedict Shuttleworth; died here July, 1774; at which time a room in the Feathers Inn in Friargate, now pulled down, was used as a chapel.

1773-1779 D. Bernard Anselm Bradshaw, A.D., succeeded him, built the first Catholic chapel in the town, 1778, and died here, Jan. 20, 1799. In 1784 Bishop Matthew Gibson

confirmed 91 persons here, when he was taken by an attack of gout, and had to remain in Father Bradshaw's house for a month.

1799-1801 D. Vincent Wearden, A.D., who seems to have acted at first as assistant (1797-1799), was the second regular incumbent, and died here July 10, 1801.

1801-1808 D. William Dunstan Webb, A D.

1808-1816 D. William Jerome Digby, G.

1816-1853 Dr. John Alban Molyneux. The church of St. Alban in Bewsey Street was erected by him, and opened 13 Nov. 1823. It was he who obtained for the mission a chasuble of early fifteenth century work, found in the parish church of Warrington; one of the orphreys being embroidered with a figure of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, once an object of great veneration in this part of the country. As the office of President of the Benedictines, to which he was elected, called for some change in the administration of the mission, it was placed in the hands of

1853-1870 D. John Placid Hall, A.D. He bought the house and land in King Street for a convent and schools, and collected large sums of money for the new church of St. Mary in Buttermarket Street, erected after his departure from the town. From the year 1846 the incumbent has usually been assisted by one or two priests, whose names need not be given here.

RIXTON HALL.—The mission of Rixton, near Warrington, was commenced in 1831 by Father Richard Marsh, L., as stated above in speaking of Woolston. He died here February 23, 1843.

1843-1851 D. John Bernard Robinson, L.; he died Oct. 9, 1851.

1851-1852 D. Richard Ambrose Prest, L.
1852-1872 D. Patrick Alban Dunne, L, who died May 31, 1872.
1872-1874 D. Thomas Augustine Atkinson; was the last Benedictine stationed here.

A group of missions in the neighbourhood of Preston are here placed together :—

FISHWICK HALL, PRESTON.—The residence of the Eyves family, as lease-holders under the Viscounts Molyneux, for many generations. In 1586 Sir Evan Banister, an old Marian priest, was reported to be received here by Mrs. Jane Eyves. It is probable that the chapel within the hall was regularly served before Dom Bartholomew Gregory Hesketh took charge of the mission in 1685, and built the chapel there, wherein were organs, bells, vestments, and a pulpit, as deposed before the Commissioners of Forfeited Estates in 1718. Father Hesketh died at Fishwick, 25 Jan. 1695. He was succeeded by Dom Francis Watmough, 1694-1700; after whom came Dom Francis Leander Green, who died 8 Nov. 1704, having previously removed the mission to

BRINDLE, which represents a group of out-lying stations or chapels round Preston, served of old by the Benedictines. From that day there has been a succession of Benedictines attached to the chapel here.

1704 till death, Aug. 24, 1717 D. Joseph Wilfrid Hutchinson, A.D.
1717-1722 D. William Denis Huddleston.
1722-1769 D. William Placid Naylor, L., who built a chapel and residence.
1767-1802 D. Joseph Laurence Hadley, G., who rebuilt the chapel. In 1783 the communicants numbered 600; and in 1784 Bishop Matthew Gibson confirmed 168 persons

here. In 1792 D. John Placid Bennett was on this mission.

From 1800 to 1802, D. Henry Lawson, G., was also here.

1802-1830 D. James Alexis Pope, L.

1829-1874 D. Joseph Bede Smith, L., who died at his post on January 29, 1874.

BROWNEDGE, LITTLE MOSNA in Walton-le-Dale, OSSON HOUSE in Cuerden, CUERDEN GREEN and BROWNEDGE near Preston, are all now represented by the church at Brownedge, whence a new mission has been established at Walton-le-Dale in modern times.

At OSSON HOUSE, Dom Francis Joseph Kennet was from about 1690 till his death here, 29 Dec. 1709. Dom John Jerome Farnworth succeeded him, and died here 9 Feb. 1711. His successor was a priest called by an informer to the Commissioners of Forfeited Estates in 1718 Nevill, whom we may probably identify as Dom Richard Placid Nelson. In consequence of the action of the Commissioners, the mission at Osson House was broken up and Father Nelson removed to CUERDEN, where he remained till his death, 26 Jan. 1724.

He was succeeded by Dom William Champney, who settled at LITTLE MOSNA in 1724, and died there 11 Jan. 1740, during which time he also served the missionary station at CUERDEN.

His successor was Dom Bernard Bradshaw, who remained till 1743, in which year the chapel at Little Mosna would appear to have been abandoned. In this year he was succeeded by Dom Thomas Simpson, who took up his residence at CUERDEN GREEN, where he stayed until just before his death at Ormskirk in 1764.

This year Dom Oswald Eaves (of the old family of Eyves, Fishwick Hall) came here, and in 1780

removed the missions from Little Mosna and Cuerden Green to BROWNEDGE, where there must have been a missionary station prior to 1780, for in 1774 Bishop Walton confirmed 212 persons at "Barm Bridge" (Bamber Bridge, or Brownedge).

In 1780, when the first public chapel was opened here (23rd Dec.), the authorities reported that there were 178 Popish families, numbering 875 persons, in Walton-le-Dale and Cuerdale. In 1784 Bishop Matthew Gibson confirmed 165 persons at Brownedge, when the communicants in the congregation numbered 592.

1780-1793 D. Oswald Eaves, L.; died here October 15, 1793.

1793-1822 D. John Atkinson, E.; who reported his congregation to number 1500 in 1819.

1822-1846 D. Henry Anselm Brewer, L. He built the church of St. Mary, which was opened in 1827, and left Brownedge for Liverpool, where he died May 15, 1849. He was superior of the Benedictines in the Province of York for many years, and during the time was assisted at Brownedge by Revs. J. V. Glover, Clement Croft, T. A. Atkinson, Cuthbert Vincent Clifton, and S. B. Day.

1846-1847 D. Edward Anselm Glassbrook, E.

1847-1883 D. Anselm Walker, L.

CLAYTON GREEN.—The chapel of St. Bede at Clayton Green was opened in 1822, as an offshoot of Brownedge.

1822-1834 D. Samuel Bede Day, L.; opened the present church on Sept. 8, 1824; he left in 1834, to be prior of Ampleforth.

1834-1839 D. George Alban Caldwell, L.

1839-1875 D. James Vincent Dowding, G.

1875-1877 D. Ralph Wilfrid Cooper, L., who died here Jan. 30, 1877.

WALTON-LE-DALE, PRESTON.—In 1855 the Benedictines, who in the previous century had ministered for a time at Little Mosna, returned to the district and commenced the mission of St. Patrick.

1855-1865 D. Cuthbert Proctor, L., built the school, chapel, and presbytery.
1865-1866 D. William Alphonsus Fleming, E.

The latter part of the eighteenth and earlier part of this century have witnessed a considerable development of Benedictine mission work in the county, and several missions or chapels have been opened or taken in charge by them, of which the following is a fairly complete list :—

LIVERPOOL, ST. MARY'S.—On the suppression of the Jesuits in 1773, various changes necessarily took place in the management of the missions of which they had been previously in charge. Misunderstandings having arisen with regard to the chapel in Liverpool, the difficulty was settled by its being handed over to the Benedictines; and the first of the order to enter upon regular clerical duty in the town was D. Archibald Benedict Macdonald, G.

1783-1788 Father Macdonald was in his day a well-known preacher, and translator of Ossian's poems, and obtained considerable influence in Liverpool. He left St. Mary's, the mother church of the town, and opened St. Peter's, Seel Street, in 1788.
1788-1794 D. Edmund Pennington, L. He died June 1, 1794.
1794-1797 D. Joseph William Collins, A.D.
1797-1802 D. James Alexius Pope, L.
1802-1846 D. Thomas Wilfrid Fisher, A.D.
1846-1850 D. James Augustine Wilkinson, E.
1850 D. Stanislaus Giles, E.

1850-1860 D. James Joseph Sheridan, L., who built the fine Gothic church of St. Mary, the work of the elder Pugin, in Edmund Street. The structure has been re-erected in Highfield Street within recent years (1885.)

1860-1873 D. Thomas Bede Almond, L.

The above incumbents have usually had two or three priests assisting them in this thickly-peopled parish.

COWLEY HILL, the seat of Mrs. Winifrid Gorsuch Eccleston, who founded the mission here, which was served by the Jesuits, except for a short time after the suppression of the order. Fr. Joseph Barrow, S.J., came here from Eccleston Hall in 1750, and in 1784 Bishop Matthew Gibson confirmed 79 persons here, there being 101 communicants in the congregation. D. James Berry, E., was resident priest at Cowley Hill, and died there, Nov. 4, 1786.

CROSBY HALL.—To the Blundells of Crosby the Catholics of the south-west of Lancashire were long indebted; for their domestic chapel and the priest who served it were, at frequent intervals, their only religious help in penal times. In 1568 two priests called Norme, *alias* Butcher or ffisher, of Formby, and Peyle, *alias* Picke, were reported to say Mass commonly at the hall of Crosby. In 1592 the Rev. James fforth or fforde, who came from the college at Rheims in 1584, was reported by a spy to be at Crosby. In Sept. or Oct. 1725, Fr. John Cuerden, of the Discalced Carmelites, came to be chaplain here, but removed to Croxteth 13 Sept. 1726. From about the middle of the seventeenth century, both Jesuits and seculars appear to have served in Little Crosby till 1786, when the Benedictines came in. In 1721 Bishop Witham confirmed 284 persons at Crosby Hall. At Crosby Hall or Little

Crosby, a Benedictine father was to be found for about eighty years. The first was

1786-1812 D. Charles Boniface Taylor, A.D., who died here April 27, 1812.
1812-1817 During these years a secular priest served the mission.
1817-1819 D. James Calderbank, L.
1819-1834 D. Edward Benedict Glover, L.
1834-1835 D. Wm. Bernard Allen Collier, E.

LITTLE CROSBY.—

1836-1838 D. William Jerome Hampson, L.
1840-1843 D. James Hilary Dowding, L.
1843-1850 D. Christopher Aug. Shann, L.
1850-1856 D. Hilary Dowding again.
1856-1859 D. George Alban Caldwell, L.
1858-1860 D. Shann again. After his death (April 25, 1860), the mission ceased to be served by the Benedictines.

LIVERPOOL, ST. PETER'S.[8]—The increase in the number of Catholics in Liverpool led Father Archibald Benedict Macdonald, O.S.B., a native of Lochaber, in Scotland, to open the church of

[8] At St. Peter's is carefully preserved a very fine old Chasuble, the material of which is Florentine gold tissue, with a raised design of conventional fruit and scrolls in crimson velvet, made towards the end of the fifteenth century. It was probably at one time a cope, or Gothic-shaped chasuble, whose ample size and graceful folds served to display the splendid material and handsome design to advantage. Unfortunately, as has been the case with nearly all similar pieces now existing in England, it has been cut down to form a chasuble of the modern Roman, or French, shape ("fiddle back"), probably late in the seventeenth or early in the eighteenth century, when the filagree gold lace, with which it is trimmed, was added. The material is exactly the same as, but the pattern differs from, that of the magnificent cope preserved at Stonyhurst College, part of the great store of ecclesiastical vestments designed by Torregiano, and wrought at Florence, by order of King Henry VII, for his chapel at Westminster, and by him bequeathed in his Will to the Abbot and Convent there. The ground of this is the same gold tissue, but the raised design in crimson velvet is of red roses and portcullises.

It is an historic fact that Pope Leo X sent to King Henry VIII some magnificent church vestments at the same time that he bestowed upon him the title of "Defender of the Faith," for his book against Luther. There is a tradition that the vestments at Newburgh Hall, of which the chasuble at St. Peter's, Liverpool, was undoubtedly one, were part of this gift; and some

St. Peter in Seel Street in 1788 (Sept. 7), which he did with the reluctant consent of his superiors, the site chosen being then quite on the outskirts of the town, and almost surrounded by fields. He continued to reside here till his death, July 29, 1814; during this time he had as assistants Frs. Rich. Pope, L., John Lawrence Barnes, G., Wm. Jerome Digby, G., and Jas. Calderbank, L., and his successor,[9]

1814-1816 D. Wm. Dunstan Tarleton, L. His assistants were Frs. Hen. Leo Spain, G., and Thos. Gregory Robinson.

1816-1835 D. Thomas Gregory Robinson, L., assisted by Fr. Vincent Glover.

1835-1838 D. Joseph Vincent Glover, L.

years since, the late Mr. Edmund Waterton, F.S.A., a great authority on such matters, on seeing this chasuble, pronounced its material to be the same as that of some historic suit of that period, but whether part of Pope Leo's gift or not, the Reverend Percy Anderson, O.S.B., cannot now remember.

The orphreys attached to the chasuble are of feather-stitch (*opus plumarium*), with gold couching, the workmanship fine, the colouring of the reds, blues, and greens exquisitely shaded and wonderfully preserved. The orphrey (in form of a Latin cross) on the back of the chasuble is embroidered with a figure of our Lord crucified, attendant angels receiving in chalices the precious blood. At the foot of the cross, St. John supports the fainting figure of the Blessed Virgin, a small house in the background, while below is worked one of the "Stations," our Lord falling as he bears the cross. Over the head of the Crucified is a figure of the Deity with crown and orb, a very unusual representation. On the straight orphrey in front of the chasuble are embroidered three standing figures under canopies of saints, two male and one female, which the writer could not identify.

The Chasuble, about the middle of the eighteenth century, was in the private chapel at Newburgh Hall, co. York, the seat of the Belayses, Viscounts Fauconberg. When the fourth Viscount, who died in 1774, had conformed to the Established Church, the chapel fittings and vestments were removed to a dower-house of the family, Angram Hall, 1½ miles from Newburgh Hall. Thence, in 1795, they were taken by one of the fourth Viscount's sisters, Mary, wife of Thomas Eyre, of Hassop, co. Derby, Esq., to a small chapel which she had fitted up in the village of Owlston, just outside Newburgh Park. They were afterwards removed to Crayke Castle, another Fauconberg possession, and thence, about 1830, to Easingwold Priory, where some of them certainly are now. The chasuble in question was about this time, however, given to the Church of St. Peter, in Seel Street, Liverpool, where it is treasured both for its beauty as a work of art, and its long chain of historical associations.—ED.

9 It is interesting to note that the table silver, of excellent design, brought to the presbytery by Fr. Macdonald in 1788, is still in use there (October, 1898).—ED.

1838-1840 D. Ralph Ephrem Pratt, G.
1841-1847 D. James Francis Appleton, E.; a victim of the fever scourge;[10] he died May 26, 1847.
1847-1864. D. Thomas Benedict Bonny, A.D.

Among those who have assisted the incumbents of Seel Street have been the following:—Frs. A. Prest, L., G. A. Caldwell, L., W. P. Corlett, L., M. P. Sinnott, G., J. C. Worsley, L., and many others.

The church appears to have been rebuilt in 1818.

LYTHAM HALL.—At Lytham, where, before the Reformation, there had been a priory of Benedictine monks, subject to the great minster at Durham, a Benedictine was stationed at the end of the last century and the beginning of this.

1794-1804 D. Richard Pope, L., resided here for about eight years.

CROSTON HALL, formerly the seat of the Ashtons, but now of the Traffords. During the seventeenth century and up to 1779, this mission was served by the Jesuits, when the seculars took it over; who in 1804 were succeeded by the Benedictines. In 1728 Bishop Williams confirmed 172 here. The present church was built in 1858. The registers go back to 1757. From 1804 to 1814 D. Edward Bede Slater, L., was stationed at Croston; on his leaving for Germany and Rome his place was taken for a year by D. John Turner, E.

WRIGHTINGTON HALL, NEAR WIGAN.—Another locality attended for many years was Wrightington Hall, the seat of the Dicconsons, where, from 1806 to 1891, a Benedictine was stationed.

1806-1850 D. Lewis Francis Cooper, L. He died May 9, 1850.

[10] In Sept. 1898 Bishop Whiteside unveiled and blessed a monument in St. Patrick's churchyard, Park Place, Liverpool, amid a great gathering of people, in memory of ten priests (Fr. Appleton being one), who lost their lives by their devotion to the sick in an epidemic of fever in Liverpool, in the year 1847.—ED.

1850-1851 D. James Augustine Wilkinson, E., who died at Scarisbrick, May 21, 1851.
1851-1891 D. Thomas Maurus Margison, L., on whose death (June 27, 1891) the chaplaincy and mission was taken over by the secular clergy.

SCARISBRICK HALL.—A domestic chapel had existed at Scarisbrick for many generations, and was served for several years by the Jesuit fathers. A French priest, the Abbé Dorival, opened a chapel here on Nov. 1, 1821; in 1824, the Benedictines were invited to serve the mission, then held in a barn-like brick building.

1824-1826 D. Christopher Augustin Shann, L.
1826-1865 D. Richard Benedict Hoole, E., who died here March 4, 1865.
1865-1870 D. Peter Ignatius Greenough, L.
1870-1873 D. John Placid Hall, A.D.

PARBOLD, WIGAN.—Though the mission of Parbold (formed by the separation of the outlying districts, hitherto served by the priests of Wrightington Hall and Scarisbrick) dates only from 1884, the neighbourhood has been, for a time, the temporary residence of the community of St. Laurence. After the suppression of their home in Lorraine, the monks—such of them as were able to effect their escape—assembled at Acton Burnell, in Shropshire. Soon after the arrival there of the community of St. Gregory's, Prior Marsh, the superior of St. Laurence's, removed his family to Birkenhead (1795). In 1796 they went to Scholes, near Prescot; in 1797 to Vernon Hall, Liverpool; in 1802 to Parbold; and thence to Ampleforth, in Yorkshire, where it still flourishes.

At CULCHETH HALL a Benedictine was stationed between 1820 and 1822.

INCE BLUNDELL HALL.—For about forty years (1826-65) D. Peter Ignatius Greenough, L., was stationed at Ince Blundell.

GOOSNARGH.—The mission of THE HILL, Goosnargh, near Preston, was taken over from the Franciscan friars (who had served it since early in the eighteenth century) in 1833, and was served by D. Edward Vincent Dinmore, L., till his death there, July 21, 1879.

LIVERPOOL, ST. AUGUSTINE'S.—In consequence of the increasing number of Catholics in the neighbourhood of the Liverpool docks, the mission of St. Augustine was opened about 1843, and was served from St. Mary's, in Edmund Street. When the church was opened, in 1849 (September 9th), the Rev. Charles Francis Cook, E., was appointed incumbent, with two fathers to assist him. On his death (April 3rd, 1858), the Rev. W. A. Bulbeck, G., was appointed his successor. Rev. Ralph Wilfrid Cooper, who retired in 1875, was the third superior of this busy important parish.

LIVERPOOL, ST. ANNE'S.—The growth of Liverpool in the direction of Edge Hill necessitated the foundation of a new mission in that quarter of the city. Land was bought in what were then the outskirts of the town, and a residence for the clergy erected in 1840. Six years later, the fine church of St. Anne's was opened. Much of the success of this early prosperity was due to the first incumbent, D. Thomas Maurus Margison, L.

1846-1848 D. Anselm Brewer, provincial, was in charge.
1848-1850 D. Wilfrid Cooper, who left on his election to the priorship of Ampleforth.
1850-1854 D. John Athanasius Clarkson, E.
1854-1865 D. William Bernard O'Sullivan, G.

1866-1868 D. John Carrol, E.
1868-1878 D. James Edmund Poole, L.; he died in Liverpool July 19, 1878

LEE HOUSE, PRESTON.—Another mission in the neighbourhood of Preston, placed under the Benedictines, was that of Lee House. It was formerly an old Franciscan mission, served by Father Germaine Helme, O.S.F., in 1745, who died a prisoner in Lancaster Castle in 1746. The Benedictine succession is as follows:—
1859-1868 D. George Alban Caldwell, L.
1868-1870 D. Joseph Benedict Murphy, L.
1870-1871 D. Cyprian Tyrer, L., who died here July 6, 1871
1871-1874 D. J. B. Murphy again.
1874-1876 D. Thomas Augustine Atkinson, L., who died here March 26, 1876.

It only remains to be observed that on the reorganisation of the English Benedictine congregation in 1890-91, the missions at that date served by the whole body in common were divided among the three monastic families constituting the English congregation. According to the arrangement then made, the following partition was effected:—

To St. Gregory's, Downside, near Bath, were assigned the missions of St. Mary's, Liverpool; St. Mary's, Woolton; St. Benedict's, Hindley; and St. Bede's, Clayton Green. To St. Laurence's, Ampleforth, York, the churches of St. Peter and St. Anne, Liverpool; St. Augustine, Aigburth; St. Joseph, Brindle; St. Francis, Goosnargh; St. Mary, Leyland; St. Mary, Parbold; and St. Alban and St. Mary, Warrington. To St. Edmund's, Douay, were assigned St. Augustine's, Liverpool; St. Benet's, Netherton; St. Anne's, Ormskirk; and St. Elizabeth's, Scarisbrick.

I must not conclude this paper without a very sincere apology for its inordinate length, and, I fear, its very uninteresting character. For its many faults of omission and commission I must take all the blame; begging those who are more familiar than I can hope to be with Lancashire names and districts to correct some, at least, of the errors that call for correction, and to supplement my meagre outline of Benedictine work in Lancashire. Unknown and lowly as that work has for the most part been, its long continuance and wide area can claim for it some small share of recognition, when a survey is taken of the religious agencies which have been at work in the county during the past three centuries.

EDITORIAL POSTSCRIPT.

For making this Paper still longer, the Editor must assume the sole responsibility. Owing to the kind help of his friend, Mr. Joseph Gillow, whose knowledge of, and collections in print and MS. respecting this subject are unique, additions to the paper have been made, which the Editor believes cannot fail to gratify those interested in a somewhat obscure subject (part and parcel, indeed, of Lancashire history), especially genealogists who may here find a help to the identification of members of old Lancashire families, whose names, as infants perhaps, appear in the later Heraldic Visitations, but over whose subsequent lives there has hitherto hung an impenetrable, mysterious cloud.

Communications.

ON THE TIDES AND DATUMS OF THE LANCASHIRE COAST.

TO any one conversant with the Ordnance Maps, which were first published in England about the year 1847, from surveys conducted and commencing in 1841, after the Irish survey was completed, and which are now in course of re-publication from amended surveys, there may arise the thought "From what source are all the myriads "of heights, in figures, contours in altitudes of "25 feet on low levels, bolts and broad arrows on "church towers, and broad arrows without bolts "on other fixed objects, and surface levels on roads "and streets, calculated and taken?"

They are all calculated from the "mean tidal "level" of the sea, taken from an average of several observations at the site of the present level of the Old Dock sill, which, though long pulled down (and on which now stands the Custom House), is recorded on a marble slab inserted in the east wall of the Canning Dock at Liverpool.

The levels from this point extended over all England, commencing in 1841, and many thousands of these recorded levels were published by the Board of Ordnance in 1861, in a large octavo volume.

There was a time, not many years ago, when anything below ordinary high-water mark was not rateable for any purpose, and in cases of piers, etc., extending seaward, it became necessary to ascertain the exact point to which rating applied; but that is not now necessary. It is, however, necessary to discover the line below which the Duchy of Lancaster, or manorial rights, extend below the freeholds of adjoining landowners, which line is 15·51 feet above the Old Dock sill at Liverpool, commonly reckoned as a 16-foot tide.

In Mr. Pearson's work, published in 1881, he says that the mean half-tide level at Liverpool, above the Old Dock sill, has increased continuously during successive periods of five years each, thus:—

From	1854	to	1859	it was	4·948
	1859	to	1864	,,	5·073
	1864	to	1869	,,	5·208
	1869	to	1873	,,	5·265;

so that, apparently, the average sea level has increased 7¼ inches between 1854 and 1873. "It "cannot, however, be supposed that the mean level "of the sea has altered during these periods."

As one of the purposes of the levels taken after 1841 was the study of the permanence or otherwise of the relative levels of the sea and the land, it would appear that there is a gradual rise of the sea level in operation at the present time, and as geologists aver that there was a time when the Irish Sea was only 20 miles in width, while others state that there are remains of buildings to be seen below the sea after the efflux of the spring tides in March or September, and also that the diameter at the poles of the earth is 20 miles shorter than at the equator, and we know that coal is found where no possible coal can now be created, and if any change in the surface of

the earth or in its thickness is taking place the water of the sea must tell the truth, with some allowance for the centrifugal law on the earth's centre: these records must have a slight interest, though it may take generations to discover any material result, for as Tennyson says:—

> "Oh earth, what changes thou hast seen!
> There, where the broad street roars, hath been
> The stillness of a central sea."

RICHARD VEEVERS.

Accompanying this Communication was the following letter, addressed by the writer to Mr. H. D. Eshelby (then Hon. Treasurer of the Society), and dated "Woningworth, Fulwood Park, near Preston, 15th January, 1897":—

"*At time and time, whilst in practice as a surveyor in the firm from "which I retired four years ago, I have encountered difficulties in "arriving at correct data, from which the various levels have been taken, "as, for instance, the Old Dock sill at Liverpool is used for the tide tables "for Liverpool and the Isle of Man, and at Fleetwood and Preston from "a datum of the Admiralty adopted by the Rev. Mr. Pearson, whilst the "millions of levels on the Ordnance plans are taken from the mean level "of the sea, which is 4ft. 8in. above the Old Dock sill at Liverpool, a "mark of which is very carefully preserved somewhere by the river-side "at Liverpool.* [These three datums are indicated by black lines on the accompanying diagram.]

"*The Admiralty datum is used for all sea levels in fathoms, but it has "no connection with sand levels by any sort of reference.*

"*Some years ago, valuation for rating could not extend below ordinary "high water mark, but now to low water, and in rating piers they "could not be charged beyond O.H.W.*

"*On sea shores, the Duchy, where not prevented by manorial claims "intervening, sell up to O.H.W., where private owners step in on their "own right.*

"*I have carefully figured the different heights, so that the scale need "not be trusted. It is in no way antiquarian, but is of some historic "interest, and may be acceptable for the Society's Journal. I have "never seen any trace of these various levels hitherto provided.*"

CHESSHYRE'S LIBRARY, HALTON.

SIR JOHN CHESSHYRE'S Library at Halton, in the parish of Runcorn, is, with the exception of Humphrey Chetham's foundation at Manchester, the oldest public library in the northern counties. It is enshrined in a long stone building of one room, panelled and furnished in oak, standing within its own walled plot of ground near the parish church.

The best account of the library, and of the provisions of the founder as set forth in his Will and in the "Rules and Orders" which he caused to be printed, will be found in a paper read by Mr. J. D. Jones, of the Runcorn Free Library, on the occasion of a visit of the librarians of the Mersey district. But this paper was unfortunately published only in the *Widnes Weekly News* of 30th May, 1896, and hence is not very accessible for reference.

Over the entrance door of the library is a marble tablet, bearing, in fading characters, an inscription, which has been frequently reprinted, but so seldom correctly, that it may be worth while to set it out once more:—

HANC BIBLIOTHECAM
PRO COMMUNI LITERATORUM USU
SUB CURA CURATI CAPELLAE DE HALTON
PROVENTIBUS TER FELICITER AUGMENTATAE
JOHANNES CHESSHYRE, MILES
SERVIENS D'M REGIS AD LEGEM
D. D. D.
ANNO MDCCXXXIII.

For the sake of what follows, I venture to intrude a translation:—"This library, for the common use

"of lettered persons, under the care of the Curate "of Halton Chapel (three times happily augmented "with endowments), is given by John Chesshyre, "Knight, King's Serjeant-at-law, in the year 1733."

The reference in the fourth line of this inscription to a three-fold augmentation of the chapel has been somewhat of a puzzle; but the meaning becomes clear when it is read in connection with another inscription on a marble slab which was formerly in the church, but is now set inside the

CHESSHYRE'S LIBRARY, HALTON.

The following corrections should be made in this note:

Page 176, line 6, *dele* long.
Page 176, line 5 from bottom, *for* D'M *read* D'NI.
Page 177, line 20, *for* CHAPEL *read* CHAPPEL.

Since the note was written the marble tablet over the library door has been removed, having fallen to pieces, and has been replaced by a new stone bearing the same inscription; and the Rev. G. D. Wray, Vicar of Halton, has published in pamphlet form a reprint of the Rules and Orders, 1732, and Catalogue of Books, 1733, from the unique original copy in the library.—C.M.

I A
1730

On the old Vicarage, a stone house closely adjoining the library:—

M C
1739

CHARLES MADELEY.

LEAVES FROM AN ANTIQUARY'S NOTE BOOK.

LIVERPOOL STREETS.

DURING the present year, the opening of considerable lengths of the streets of Liverpool for the purpose of laying the electric wires for the telegraphs and telephone, has disclosed many of the remnants of the ancient town, and the lost lines of the original streets. While it is possible to ascertain these from the numerous plans and records in the municipal archives, they are not readily accessible to all citizens; moreover, they do not give, as these excavations have done, the character of the buildings that occupied the lines of streets. It may, therefore, be of interest to record them.

Ancient Liverpool was built in the form of an irregular double cross; Castle Street, High Street, and Old Hall Street forming an irregular line from north to south; Tithebarn Street and Chapel Street being the northernmost cross line from east to west; Dale Street and Water Street the southern cross arms. The town stretched from the Castle to the Old Hall, and from the pool to the shore of the river. Within this space was much open ground, fields and crofts behind the houses. There were scarcely any minor streets, the town being built on the northern system, having narrow courts and alleys branching from the main streets. A few of these remain, and more existed within memory—Slater's Court, Union Court, Orange Court, Sweeting Street (which is actually two courts meeting at right angles); while the larger

houses in Dale Street, Water Street, Tithebarn Street, etc., had their private courts, containing gardens, warehouses, and workshops. This plan of construction it has been the unceasing effort of modern improvement to abolish, so that little now remains.

The markets were at the Crosses; the High Cross at the north end of Castle Street; the White Cross at the junctions of Tithebarn Street, High Street, Chapel Street, and Old Hall Street, which was for country folk entering the town; the Red Cross, behind the Castle, was the cattle market, and later, a general market.

The present Exchange buildings cover most of the site of the ancient High Street. The excavations crossed this street close to the Exchange gateways, and disclosed a street 25 feet wide, its line being covered by the two easternmost arches of the gates and their piers. It was three or four feet below the present level, and skirted by brick houses of no very ancient date, well built, and having cellars; the bricks were those made after the date of the excise duty on bricks, laid on in the reign of George III.

About 12 feet from the gates, almost at the centre of the street, and close to the surface, lay three large blocks of yellow stone, about three feet long, two wide, and one thick, much worn and damaged. These lay exactly on the spot where the White Cross is known to have stood, and though they cannot be said with certainty to have belonged to its base, their position and character are suggestive.

Turning eastward up Tithebarn Street, numerous foundations of houses, mostly of yellow stone, ashlar, were cut through, and the line of this street has been set back southward from 21 to 25 feet. The houses had cellars, partly cut in the rock, but more eastward in clay. A few copings and stone mullions

shewed these to have been stone-built houses of the 17th or 18th century. Near the centre of Exchange Street East, a kind of paved alley, about three feet wide, ran north and south; the pavement was made of solid ashlar blocks, and the stone foundations of houses on each side of it, suggested that the original arrangement had been a court, with a narrow entry, and that at a later date, Exchange Street East, had been broken through the line of houses into Tithebarn Street.

A little higher up the street, the trenches came through the old line of road, and disclosed few foundations, but here, a number of the ancient wooden pipes for the supply of water from Bootle to Liverpool were dug out. They lay three or four feet below the surface, and were made of the trunks of beech trees, bored out very cleanly with pump augurs, the smaller ends were cut to a conical form, and plugged into the butt ends of the adjacent logs, into which a wrought iron ring was driven to prevent splitting. The wood was in excellent condition. These pipes were laid down under a scheme of Sir Cleave Moore's, propounded about 1690, and completed a century later. Several others were found in Cook Street and other parts of the excavations. It is noteworthy that in the excavations at Roman Callera, Silchester, traces of similar wooden pipes were found with iron rings at the junctions; the system, therefore, if not the pipes, is ancient. From High Street to the west corner of Fenwick Street, similar foundations were uncovered, but little of interest beyond the fact that the original Chapel Street was fully 20 feet narrower than the present, and that most of the houses were cellared. It is notable that the rock originally came near the surface in High Street, and down Chapel Street, and that the cross must have stood on the highest part of the rock, and High Street ran along its ridge.

Old Hall Street gave but few remains *in situ*, but just sufficient to show that the street was nearly 30 feet narrower than at present, and had been widened westwards. Fenwick Street was new in the time of Sir Edward Moore; it was much narrower than at present, as shewn by a few foundations on the west side. As it approached Brunswick Street, the rock rose close to the surface, and at Old Ropery, a deep gulley was cut across about 20 feet wide, filled with rubbish. As the rock naturally falls east and west, it is impossible that this could be a natural water course. Our records of it shew that it was used, about the middle of the 17th century, for a ropery, and a dry bridge was thrown over it to continue the line of Fenwick Street. I would submit the theory that this formed the outer entrenched court of the Castle, and that such buildings as the "long stable" and the "prison," etc., of which we have a record, would have stood within its enclosure; and the many references to the herbage of the Castle trenches, which were let off, would be consistent with the presence of earthworks, and were impossible in the deep rock-cut moat of the Castle.

At the termination of this street, was uncovered the curious angular line of wall shewn in Chadwick's and other old maps, just where the footwalk of Fenwick Street debouches on James Street. It proved to be a strong ashlar stone wall, and might have formed part of the old prison, built after the "long stable" had been destroyed. Beyond this point, the trench went through the rock to the castle moat, which it twice crossed, cutting its way through the squalid foundations of the mean houses that bordered the west castle moat before the town acquired it; these tenements were of brick.

Down the line of South Castle Street nothing

of interest was found. Pool Lane was anciently a mere trackway to the ferry.

In crossing Water Street, foundations of a house were found in the line of Fenwick Street, nearly in the middle of both streets; also stone mullions and window heads that must have belonged to an early house of good style. Evidently the line of the new Fenwick Street was broken through that of Water Street. In a similar way, John Street was shewn to have been opened out of Dale Street; the foundations there were of small bricks of Stuart type, and in the roadway, opposite the Royal Insurance new buildings, was a well, 20 feet deep, lined with good bricks, evidently formerly in the back premises of a Dale Street house.

Moorfields and South John Street gave nothing of interest.

In Cook Street, beside the water pipes, the workmen broke into a kind of tunnel, 14 feet high, cut in the hard rock, going apparently in the direction of the Town Hall. Cook Street was formerly more like a court than a street; it was entered under a handsome stone arch, and the King's Arms Hotel crossed it, a good old inn of Hanoverian date. The street was very narrow, and was widened northwards. Possibly this vault may be one of the cellars of the old hotel. It may be well to record here that the business part of Liverpool, at the end of last, and early in the present century, was full of vaulted cellars, often two stories deep; very many of which have been destroyed by recent improvements.

A very large series of double vaults has recently disappeared from Rumford Place, and the great set that underlies the area of Exchange Alley is now being taken down. The disuse of these great stores for merchandise marks an historic phase in

English commerce. When they were built, almost every article of import was subject to duty, and bonded stores were restricted to a definite area, and this was crowded with such accommodation. Free trade has done away with these requirements, and these cellars, once so valuable, are superseded. The lines of the land in Exchange Alley, as well as Rumford Place, are those of the ancient fields on which they were built. The narrow strips of plough land were curved at the ends where the the plough turned, and this gave form to the fields. The subsequent buildings followed these lines.

On this site, the last ancient inn in the street, which faced Chapel Street, has been taken down, and under its hearth was found a deposit of coins, chiefly of George II's reign, and a few tokens. The same kind of finds have occurred lately in removing other old Liverpool houses; they are a survival of the extremely ancient practice of foundation sacrifices, a possible instance of which was found at Birkenhead Priory, the skeleton of a goat being built into a recess near the door.

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH.

An examination of St. George's Church vaults and graves, shewed that the materials of the older church had been used up in their walls, fragments of columns and other details being built in; but of the fine sculptures that adorned the older church there is no trace. It would be interesting to know what became of these. The church covers the site of the chapel, the south west tower, and part of the hall of the Castle. The graves shew the rock does not fully reach the surface here; we know that it does so on the north and east sides of the Castle, and that in levelling the site, the rock was cut down many feet. It is plain that the gatehouse

and east side of the Castle stood on an elevated knoll of rock. An ancient wood-cut, believed to show the gate passage, represents it as partly hewn through tne rock. From this point, the surface slopes steeply southward and westward, and old views represent the masonry on the south coming well down into the ditch. This set of the ground also accounts for the fact that after the destruction of the Castle, the inhabitants of houses on the south complained that their houses were flooded by rain from the higher Castle area.

BEBINGTON PASTURES.

Some relics of the ancient system of communal village agriculture survive in certain fields and their names in Lower Bebington. Some of these being superseded and nearly forgotten, it is well now to record them. The Great Heath Field and the Little Heath Field, in which the house of the manager of Port Sunlight works is now built, adjoined the heath, or common land, on the hill top, belonging to the village; Heath Road led to the Heath. Townfield Lane divided the plough lands of the Town Field, and some of its narrow strips are still indicated by the hedge-rows. On the slope of the hill of Higher Bebington, traces of still older cultivation can be traced in the lines of the "balks" and "lynches." The district now known as New Ferry, was originally called "The Pastures," and was the common grazing land; a small scrap of this below the station, now used as a drying ground, is the only remnant of common land remaining unenclosed.

ANCIENT CHARTERS PRESERVED AT SCARISBRICK HALL IN THE COUNTY OF LANCASTER, DONE INTO ENGLISH AND ABSTRACTED BY THE REVEREND EDWARD POWELL.

PART II.

101. [1368.] This is the final agreement made in the Court of the Lord King at Westminster in the 41st year of his reign on the octave of St. Michael (Sept. 29) before Robert of Thorp John Moubray William of Fyncheden and William of Wythingham Justices and afterwards recorded on the octave of St. Hilary (Jan. 14) between Henry of Scaresbrek plaintiff and Simon del Holmes and his wife Dionisia unjustly occupying 3½ acres of land and the 6th part of one messuage with appurtenances in Hurleton and Scaresbrek They agree that the said Simon and Dionisia acknowledge that the aforesaid tenements and appurtenances are the right of Henry of which the said Henry has 2 acres with appurtenances by gift of the said Simon and Dionisia and they the said Simon and Dionisia agree that 1½ acres of land and the 6th part of the messuage which John Salter tailor and his wife Katherine hold for the term of the life of the said Katherine at her death revert to the said Simon and Dionisia and after their death such revert to Henry of Scaresbrek and his heirs And for their acknowledgment and agreement the said Henry paid to Simon and Dionisia 10 marks of silver.

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102. [1369.] [Will of Thomas of Lathum] In the name of God Amen On Saturday the morrow of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Sept. 14) in the year of the Lord 1369 I Thomas of Lathum sound in mind and body make my Will in this manner In the first place I bequeath my soul to God and B. Mary and all the Saints and my body to be buried in the Church of B. Nicholas of Burscogh And I wish my funeral and expenses be arranged according to the settling of my executors In the first place I bequeath to the Prior and Canons of B. Nicholas of Burscough that they have me in special remembrance and pray for me 100 shillings Also to the brothers of

B. Augustine at Werynton (Warrington) 5 marks Also to the friars minor of Preston 40 shillings Also to the friars at Chester 40 shillings Also to the bridge of Doggles (Douglas) and Calder 2 marks Also to a suitable chaplain for divine celebration for 5 years 20 pounds Also to Edward my son 5 marks Also to Robert my son 5 marks Also to Roger Banastre 5 marks Also to distribute amongst my servants for their good service 10 marks Also to Margery the daughter of Philip 20 shillings And after the payment of my debts I wish that the residue of my goods be spent in alms for divine celebration for my soul and the soul of Alyonora my wife according to the settlement of my executors I appoint as executors of this my Will as they wish to answer for me before the Supreme Judge, John of Kirkby, chivaler, Edward my son, Robert my son, the Prior of Burscogh, Henry of Scaresbrek, and Gilbert de Ines of Aghton. In testimony of which I have affixed my seal to these presents on the day and year above said.

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103. [1369.] Know all by these presents that I Matilda formerly wife of John of Okynheved in my pure widowhood have quitclaimed to Robert le Breton and Richard of Smalshagh chaplains all my right and claim to lands and tenements that were formerly belonging to Alexander of Marhale my father in vills of Scaresbrek and Hurleton.

Witnesses: Otho of Halsale, Henry of Scaresbrek, Adam of Bekyrstath, Roger of Hoiland, Gilbert of Gosforesech, and others.

Given at Ormeskyrk on Sunday after the Feast of St. Martin in winter (Nov. 11) in the 43rd year of Edward III.

Seal: geometrical pattern.

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104. [1369.] Let it be clear to all that I Richard of Penwartham have demised for the term of my life to John son of Alice daughter of Galfrid of Ormeskyrk and to Alice the mother of the said John and to Alice the sister of the said John 4 plots (placeas) of land and buildings thereon lying in Ormeskyrk in the vill of Lathom lying between the land of Robert of Kendale and that of John of Wakefield chaplain To have and to hold to the said John Alice and Alice Rendering to me one rose at the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (June 24) and discharging the customary services.

Witnesses: Otho of Halsale, Henry of Scaresbrek, Adam of Bekyrstath, Roger le Flecher (arrow-maker), John le Tagliour, William of Eccliston clerk, and others.

Given at Ormeskyrk on the Feast of St. Nicholas the Bishop (Dec. 6) in the 43rd year of Edward III.

Seal illegible.

105. [1369.] In the name of God Amen Since I Thomas of Lathum have given to my sons Edward and Robert of Lathum John of Kirby chivaler Henry of Scaresbrek and Gilbert de Ines of Aghton my manor of Lathum with appurtenances let all know that this is my wish That the aforesaid executors shall have and hold the said manor with appurtenances for the whole of their lives so that from the profits arising therefrom they may pay all and each of my debts and act up to my wish as is more fully explained in my will So that after my funeral they may be for the payment of my debts and the fulfilment of my will and after the completion of such I wish that my said manor revert to my heirs for ever In testimony of which I have affixed my seal to these presents on the morrow of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross (Sept. 14) in the year 1369.

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106. [1368-1369.] Let all present and future know that I William son of Richard Wylksone have granted to Gilbert of Gosfordesich and William his brother all my lands and buildings with appurtenances which I had or have on the day of the making of this charter in vills of Hurleton and Scaresbrek To be held of the chief lords for due services.

Witnesses: Henry of Scaresbrek, Otho of Halsale, Adam of Bykerstath, and others.

Given at Scaresbrek on Thursday after St. Hilary (Jan. 14) in the 43rd year of Edward III.

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107. [1369.] Let all present and future know that I William de Molyneux of Sefton have granted to Gilbert of Ines near Wigan Henry of Scaresbrek John le Norreys David of Irlond Richard de Ashton of Adburgham Thomas le Norreys of Derby and Henry of Dytton all my manors of Sefton Eukeston Down Lytherlond Layrebreck and Ellal together with the advowson of the said church of Sefton and also all my messuages lands and tenements with appurtenances which I had at Newsum near Wodeplomton and also the reversion of all lands and tenements which John del Dam John le Walsch Richard Robynsone John of Pylkynton chaplain Gilbert le Walsch Thomas son of John Wyllesone and Robert del Yate hold for the term of their lives in the vill of Eukeston and also the reversion of all the lands and tenements which Alan of Walton holds in the vill of Newsum for the term of his life To have and to hold the said manors with advowson of the said church together with reversions and all messuages etc. with their appurtenances in all moors mosses roads footpaths and all other profits of the chief lords of

the fee for due services Wherefore I have affixed my seal to these presents.

Witnesses: John of Garton, John of Eccliston, William of Faryngton, and others.

Given at Sefton on Monday before the Feast of the Ascension of the Lord in the 43rd year of Edward III.

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108. [1369.] Let all present and future know that I John del Greve have granted to Henry of Scaresbrek all my lands and tenements with messuages buildings etc. which I had and held by hereditary right on the day of the making of this charter in vills of Hurleton and Scaresbrek To be held of the chief lords of the fee for the usual services.

Witnesses: Otho of Halsale, Adam of Bekyrstath, Roger of Holland, Thomas of Aghton, Richard of Aghton, and others.

Given at Hurleton on Thursday the Feast of St. Nicholas the Bishop (Dec. 6) in the 43rd year of Edward III.

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109. [1370.] Let all present and future know that I Richard son of Alan del Greve have granted to Henry of Scaresbrek all my lands etc. which have fallen to me by inheritance after the death of John son of John of Ormeskyrk within the boundaries of Ormeskyrk in the vill of Lathum Rendering usual services to the said Henry.

Witnesses: Otho of Halsale, Gilbert of Gosfordesiche, John of Bekyrstath clerk, and others.

Given at Ormeskyrk on Saturday after the Feast of St. Gregory the Pope (March 12) in the 44th year of Edward III.

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110. [1370.] Let all know by these presents that we Symon of Gosfordesich Adam son of John Hannesone of Becansawe Thomas son of Robert Dyksone of Longton John son of Robert Dyksone Henry son of Robert Dyksone William and Geoffrey sons of the same John the Milner (miller) of Longton John son of William Wyldyng Robert son of Roger Dyksone John of Aspynwall John of Cratton Sircorem William of Aykyscawe Thomas of Aykyscawe William son of Henry of Longton Henry of Wyresdale John son of Richard Wyllsone William son of Adam Stileuke of Hoghill William son of Symon Gybson and Robert son of Geoffrey Dyksone have appointed as attorney our beloved in Christ William of Gosfordesich to deliver over full and peaceful seisin to Gilbert of Gosfordesich of all lands and tenements which we have had by gift and feoffment and have

ratified and accepted whatever the said William has done in our name In testimony whereof we have affixed our seals to these presents.

Given at Longton on Monday in Whitweek in the 44th year of Edward III.

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111. [1370.] This writing in duplicate testifies that I Henry of Scaresbek have granted for all my life to John del Greves all that land with messuage and buildings with all appurtenances which I had by gift and feoffment of the said John in vills of Hurleton and Scaresbrek To have and to hold of me and my heirs Rendering each year to me and my heirs one rose at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (June 24) and performing to the chief lords all due services.

Witnesses: Otho of Halsale, Gilbert of Gosfordeseche, William of Morecroft, William of Eccliston clerk, and others.

Given at Hurleton on Thursday after Nativity of the Lord in the 43rd year of Edward III.

Seal: a shield; arms a fesse between three.....

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112. [1370-1371.] Let all present and future know that I Robert le Hunt son of Margaret del Crosse have granted to Henry Scaresbrek his heirs and assigns all my messuages lands and tenements with appurtenances which I have had by heirship in vills of Hurleton and Scaresbrek To be held of the chief lords for due services with all liberties and easements of the said vills In testimony whereof I have affixed my seal.

Witnesses: Otho of Halsale, Gilbert of Gosfordesich, Roger of Holland, John of Bekyrstath, Hugh del Shagh, and others.

Given at Hurleton on Thursday before St. Valentine (Feb. 14) in the 45th year of Edward III.

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113. [1370-1371.] Let all present know that I Robert le Hunt son of Margaret del Crosse have appointed and placed in my stead my beloved in Christ John le Walker of Scaresbrek as my true attorney to deliver over full seisin to Henry of Scaresbrek of all my lands and tenements which I have given to him by a charter ratifying what the said John does in my name.

Given at Ormeskyrk on Thursday before the Feast of St. Valentine Martyr in the 45th year of Edward III.

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114. [1371.] This Indenture witnesses that we Gilbert of Gosfordesech and William brother of the same have granted to John of Aspinwall for the whole of his life two parts of all messuages lands and tenements which we have had by gift and

feoffment of the same John in the vills of Hurleton and Scaresbrek To be held of the chief lords for due services And after the death of the said John then to his daughter Jane and her law heirs and if she die without lawful issue then to the right heirs of the said John.

Witnesses: Otho of Halsale, Henry of Scaresbrek, Adam of Bekyrstath, Roger of Bradeschagh, Wm of Eccliston clerk, and others.

Given at Aspinwall on Tuesday the Feast of St. Mary Magdalene (July 22) in the 45th year of Edward III.

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115. [1372.] Know all present and future that I Cecilia daughter of Robert of Wythisnape have granted to Henry le Strenger of Herleton and Joan his wife four acres of arable land in the fields of Harleton and Skaresbreg which is my inheritance after the death of Richard of Wythisnape To have and to hold of the chief lords by due services.

Witnesses: Henry of Skarisbrig, Otho of Halsall, Adam of Bikerstath, Gilbert of Garsygh, and others.

Given at Scaresbrig on Sunday after the Feast of the beheading of St. John the Baptist (Aug. 29) in the 45th year of Edward III.

Seal: an ornament of leaves and scrolls.

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116. [1372-1373.] Let all present and future know that I Henry Jakson le Strynger and Joan my wife have granted to Henry of Scaresbrek and his heirs 3 acres of our land with the reversion of one acre held by Roger del Greves for the term of his life in Hurleton and Scaresbrek To be held of the chief lords for due services.

Witnesses: Otho of Halsale, Roger of Holland, Adam of Bekerstath, Gilbert of Ines, Gilbert of Gosfordsche and, others.

Given at Hurleton on the Sunday next after the Purification of B. Mary Virgin (Feb. 2) in the 46th year of Edward III.

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117. [1372-1373.] Let the present and future know that I Henry Jakson Holocson and Jane my wife have granted to Henry of Scaresbrek and his heirs all our messuages lands and tenements with their appurtenances in vills of Hurleton and Scaresbrek To be held of the chief lords for due services together with all liberties and easements of the said vills.

Witnesses: Otho of Halsale, Roger of Holand, Adam of Bekyrstath, Roger of Bradsogh, Gilbert of Gosfordsigh, and others.

Given at Scaresbrek on Tuesday after the Feast of the Purification of B. Virgin Mary (Feb. 2) in the 46th year of Edward III.

118. [1373-1374.] Let it be known that on Saturday the Vigil of Palm Sunday Henry of Ecbacton delivered over to Henry of Scaresbrek two defences (inclosed or fenced woods) for the participation of Gilbert of Ines near Wigan David of Irelond Richard of Assheton and John Blundell to keep and preserve the same for their use viz. one defence with the obligation of praying for my wife Maria and another defence with the obligation for praying for our salvation, and to find also a priest to celebrate for the soul of Richard le Moleneux to the end of the life of Wm. de Moleneux.

Given at Melling on the day above said in the 47th year of Edward III.

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119. [1374-1375.] Be it clear to all that I Roger de Blackburn of Longworth have granted to Gilbert of Gosfordsiche and his heirs a certain annual rent of 4 shillings of silver to be secured from all the messuages lands and tenements in the vill of Longworth at the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (June 24) and St. Martin in winter (Nov. 11) in equal portions and if the said rent is not paid at the aforesaid terms then it shall be lawful for the said Gilbert and his heirs to retain the messuages &c. until all is satisfied.

Given at Longworth in the presence of the witnesses Thomas Banaster of Bonk, Adam of Becaneshou, John of Noteschagh, John of Car, Richard of Ellerbek, John of Blat, and others, on Wednesday before the Feast of the Conversion of St. Paul (Jan. 25) in the 49th year of Edward III.

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120. [1381.] Be it clear to all that I William of Masthar have given and released to Henry of Scaresbrek and his heirr and have quitclaimed for ever all my right and claim to all rents services and escheats of lands and tenements which were formerly belonging to John of Crossynes Richard Horberd and Henry son of Hawsie in vills of Hurleton and Scaresbrek

Given at Scaresbrek on the Monday before the Feast of Saint Gregory Pope (March 12) in the 4th year of Richard II.

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121. [1381.] Let it be clear to all that I William of Hurleton have quitclaimed to Gilbert of Gosfordsiche all my manor of Hurlton with appurtenances together with messuages lands wards' relief (sum of money paid to the lord of the manor when a son was 21 or daughter 20) together with pastures moors mosses marshes and various reversions.

Witnesses: Roger of Bradeshagh, John of Holcroft, John del Car, Richard of Ellerbek.

Given on Saturday after the Feast of St Mark (April 25) in the 4th year of Richard II.

122. [1383.] Be it clear to all that I Jane daughter of Adam le Strenger have remitted released and in every way for myself and heirs quitclaimed to Gilbert son of Richard Becobsone and his heirs all my right and claim which I had or may have in all the land tenements and messuages formerly belonging to Roger son of Adam le Clerkson in vills of Hurlton and Scaresbrek

Given at Standish on Thursday after the Feast of St Mary Magdalene (July 22) in the 7th year of Richard II.

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123. [1386.] This Indenture made between Henry of Scaresbrekke the elder and Mayowe of Haydock witnesses that the said Henry has granted to Mayowe a road for foot and horse to his moor and moss of Scaresbrekke the head of the road beginning at the house of John Gille And Henry also grants right of cutting turves etc for a period of 5 years following the date hereof And in case the said Mayowe grants the manor of North Meles to any one the which he has on account of the nonage of Hugh son and heir of William of Aghton the said right of road shall cease.

Signed and sealed interchangeably at Scaresbrekke on Monday after the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (June 24) in the 10th year of Richard II.

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124. [1388.] Let all present and future know that I John of Aspinwale have granted to Richard Taglismon (wood cutter?) and Richard the Smyth of Burscogh one messuage five acres of land and 20 of moor and pasture in vill of Aspynwale a hamlet of Hurleton and Scaresbrekk To be held of the chief lords of the fee for due services.

Witnesses: Gilbert Halsall knight, Henry of Scaresbrek, Roger of Bradschagh, Gilbert of Gosefarsich, William of Hekylston the clerk, and others.

Given at Aspynwale on the Feast of the finding of the Cross (May 3) in the 12th year of Richard II.

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125. [1388.] Know all present and future that I Adam of Scholis chaplain have given to Alice who was wife of Richard Robynson of Scharesbrek 1 acre of land lying above Sondpesakyr which I had by grant and feoffment of the said Richard To be held by her for the whole term of her life of the chief lords for due services and after her death I grant the same to Henry Dicunson and his lawful heirs remainder to Henry Scharisbrek and his heirs and assigns.

Witnesses: Gilbert of Halsale, Roger of Holand, Adam of Bikerstat.

Given at Scarisbrek on Monday after the Feast of St. James the Apostle (July 25) in the year of the Lord 1388.

Seal: A merchant's mark in an oval, with canopy work at the sides. SIGILLUM WALTERI D'WALLEFORD. [See No. 8, plate xxxii, vol. xii (N.S.) of this Society's *Transactions.*]

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126. [1390.] Let all present and future know that we John del Car of Lathum and Richard of Burscogh have granted to Margery formerly wife of Gilbert of Gosfordsich for all her life all the messuages lands &c which the same Margery Jane widow of Roger de Fermon and Alice widow of Thomas of Longeton inherited after the death of their father John Hannesone in the vill of Longeton To be held of the chief lords of the fee by usual services all which revert to us and to our heirs let them wholly remain to William of Hurleton and Matilda his wife and their lawful heirs We have granted also to them all the messuages lands etc. which we have up to this by the gift and feoffment of Gilbert of Gosfordsich in the vill of Longeton If the said William and Matilda die without heirs remainder to the heirs of Matilda if she have none remainder to Richard of Sutton and his wife Jane remainder to Jane remainder to Adam Jankynsone of Beconsowe remainder to William son of John son of Roger Stevensone of Parbolt remainder to Gilbert his brother remainder to Alice daughter of Richard Sporowyn remainder to Emma daughter of John of Aspynwall remainder to the right heirs of Gilbert of Gosfordsich.

Given at Longeton on Friday after the Feast of St. Martin in winter (Nov. 11) in the 14th year of Richard II.

Seals: (1) Illegible, (2) The letter B with a pheon to the left.

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127. [1392-1393.] Know all people that as Henry of Scaresbrek the elder and Henry of Scaresbrek the younger his son are held by a bond of escheat court and are firmly bound to Mons. John de Stanley in eleven pounds of money to be paid at certain times as appears by the same bond nevertheless the said Mons. John wishes and grants for himself and his heirs and executors that if the aforesaid Henry and Henry or one of them or any other in their name pay or cause to be paid to the said Mons. John or his attorney nine pounds at the Feast of the Nativity of Christ next after the date of these presents then the said bond of the escheat court shall be void and of no effect in whosever hands it may be found if not it remains in force In testimony of which to these presents indented (in duplicate) the parties aforesaid have interchangeably set their seal.

Written at Lyverpull on Monday next after the Feast of the Epiphany in the 16th year of Richard II.

Seals: (1) A man with a hawk on his left hand; (2) A shield within canopy; three mullets between two bendlets engrailed. Inscription broken away. [See No. 11, plate xxxiii, vol. xii (N.S.) of this Society's *Transactions.*] *(In Norman French.)*

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128. [1395-1396.] This is an exact duplicate of No. 129. This has seals, which 129 has not: (1) Illegible; (2) Front view of Burscough Priory, with legend: + SIGILLUM SANCTI NICHOLAI DE BV[RC]ASSCVHE; (3) Illegible. [See No. 5, plate xxxii, vol. xii (N.S.) of this Society's *Transactions.*]

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129. [1395-1396.] This indenture witnesseth that as a dispute had for a long time existed between brother John the Prior of Burscogh and the Canons thereof on the one side and Henry son of Gilbert of Scaresbrek and Henry son of the same on the other part about the boundaries of the territory of the same Finally by the ordinance and arbitration of Gilbert of Halsale knight and Hugh of Standish, elected by both parties, an agreement was made in this manner and form Not taking notice in what vill or vills the tenements were situated nor of the agreement made between the predecessors of the Prior and the ancestors of the two Henrys let them hold them peacefully as during ten years or for the four years before the time of the ordinance as is more fully declared by this agreement Beginning at Thoraldestub in Malle Lane near Ormeskyrk where a large stone has been placed and following the boundaries as marked by stones between the holding of the Prior on the one part and the holding of the said Henry son of Gilbert on the other part as well as the holding of the said Prior and the holding of William of Hurlton on the other side as far as Hankelhedeseche where a large stone is placed then following the boundaries between the holdings of Richard of Sutton called Musturland which he holds from the said Prior the holdings of the said Henry up to Blacklach at the end of a certain lane near the mere the eastern boundary of 2 gardens so that the whole of that plot of mere meadow and pasture lying between Blackdeche and Merton Mere containing by estimation 2 acres up to Mashtarr-meadow thence by a ditch to Blacklach shall be in common for pasturage between the Prior and tenants of Merton and the tenants of Henry of Scaresbrek and that this agreement may remain firm the Prior &c and the two Henrys made faith and oath to the said arbitrators and affixed their seals.

Given at Ormeskyrk on Thursday next before the Conversion of Saint Paul (Jan. 25) in the 18th year of Richard II.

130. [1397.] This charter indented (in duplicate) made between Gilbert of Halsale knight and Henry of Scaresbrek testifies that the said Gilbert in exchange grants and confirms for himself and his heirs all his lands and tenements with appurtenances which he has in Asmole To hold of the chief lords of the fee by usual services For which lands and tenements Henry in exchange grants for himself and his heirs to Gilbert and his heirs for all time all his lands and tenements with appurtenances which he has in Halsale to hold of the chief lords of the fee by due services In testimony of which we have affixed our seals to this charter.

Witnesses: John of Stanley knight, John le Botiler of Weryngton knight, Richard le Molyneux, John of Lytherland, Thomas de la More, and others.

Given at Halsale and Assemole May 8th in the 20th year of Richard II.

Seal: On a shield 2 bars within a bordure indented, with legend: S' AUTI DE HALSHAL. [See No. 18, plate xxxiii, vol. xii (N.S.) of this Society's *Transactions*.] *(In Norman French.)*

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131. [1397.] Know all present and future that I Adam Brakaels chaplain have given for my life time to William of Grelteby of Aspynwalle all my lands and tenements which I had by gift and feoffment of the said William in vills of Scaresbrek and Hurleton and after his death to his son John with all liberties and easements Rendering due services to the chief lords And if he die without lawful issue then to Richard son of aforesaid William remainder to Alice daughter of said William remainder to Jane another daughter remainder to Elena remainder to the right heirs of the aforesaid William.

Witnesses: Henry of Scaresbrek, William of Hurleton, Thomas of Aspynwalle, and others.

Given at Aspynwall on Sunday after the Feast of St. Luke in the 21st year of Richard II.

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132. [1397.] This indenture between Thomas of Barton of Amounderness on the one part and Henry of Scaresbrek the elder of the other part testifies that Gilbert the elder son and heir to the said Thomas will marry Elizabeth daughter of the said Henry And Alayne of Caterall William of Ertesgate chaplain and William of Bispham chaplain who are enfeoffed of all the lands etc. of Thomas Barton will enfeoff Lawrence of Mierscough chaplain Adam Brokald chaplain Richard of Syngleton and John of Fletewodde in 10 marks worth of land in Amounderness in trust for the said Gilbert and Elizabeth And said Henry to pay said Thomas 100 marks by sundry instalments.

Witnesses: Richard of Hoghton, Richard Molyneux, John of Bolde, Alayn of Caterall, Roger of Brokholes, Richard of Winkeley.

Given at Preston in Amounderness 16 August 21st Richard II.

Seal: apparently a bird close. *(In Norman French.)*

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133. [1398.] This indenture witnesses that as a dispute has arisen between John of Wrightynton Prior of Burscogh and Henry son of Gilbert of Scarisbrek and Henry his son and heir apparent with regard to the boundary of certain tenements meadows pastures and moor within the vills of Lathum and Scarisbrek viz. beginning at Tharoldstube in Malle Lane near Ormeskyrk where a large stone has been placed following the boundaries marked out by stones to a place called Hamleschodesiche where another large stone has been placed then following the boundaries marked out by stones to Blakelache which is at the end of a certain lane near the mere on the west and between the eastern boundary of two gardens on each side of the lane of Blakelache thence following the stones placed to a certain pond called Merton Pool then along a ditch for three rods up to Merton Mere on the north along Merton Mere southwards to a certain separate close of the said Prior called the Mayne Hey thence to the east end thereof then along the first lane to a meadow of two acres thence to another called Mustarrmede and along a ditch between Mustarrmede and the moor to the said Blakelache on the south With regard to this dispute the Prior and Henry the elder and Henry the younger placed themselves unreservedly in the hands of the following for their ordaining and arbitration viz. Gilbert of Halsale knight Hugh of Standish Thomas of Hesketh John of Bold esquire and William of Becansaw now undersheriff of Lancaster and they took an oath to stand by the ordinance and arbitration of the same and the aforesaid after mature deliberation and diligence and hearing all the evidence declared that Henry the elder and Henry the younger had no right to the territory and tenement &c. within a certain portion of the moor but only to the common of pasture and the said Henrys renounce all claim save their common of pasture to a part of the moor which they have through possessing the Manor of Scarisbrek and accept the decree and guarantee the Prior and his successors against all claim Both set their seals to the agreement.

Witnesses: Richard of Houghton, Thomas Gerard, Robert of Standish, Thomas Flemming knight, Nicholas of Atherton, Edward of Lathum, John de Holland of Sutton, Thomas del More of Lyverpull, Nicholas Blundell, Nicholas Aghton, Richard of Bradschagh, John of Blythe, Henry of Haydok, William of Eccleston clerk, and others.

Given at Lathum on Thursday after the Annunciation of the B. Virgin Mary (March 25) in the 21st year of Richard II.

133A. [1398.] This indenture is an exact duplicate with seals (which the other has not) of deed No. 132 In this deed there is another witness John of Lyverpull, and Holland in the other is spelt with one l.

Seals: (1) Eagle displayed; (2) Circular seal; on a shield, a saltire within a bordure indented S HUGONIS DE STANDYSH; (3) Letter between two sprays; (4) Illegible; (5) Circular seal; on a shield within canopy work on a bend 3 garbs SIGILLUM THOME DE HESKETH (the garbs are defaced); (6) Shield within canopy; illegible. [See Nos. 10 and 12, plate xxxiii. vol. xii. (N.S.) of this Society's *Transactions*.]

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134. [1389-1390.] (Family settlement.) Let all know that the wish of Gilbert of Gosfordsich touching all his lands messuages and tenements with their appurtenances in vills of Longeton which he gave to John del Cur and Richard of Burscough is this That the said John and Richard shall give back in fee to the said Gilbert all his lands &c. for the term of his life so that Margery wife of the said Gilbert shall have for her life all messuages lands &c. which the said Margery Jane widow of Roger le Ffermon Alice widow of Thomas of Longeton had and inherited after the death of John Hannesone their father So that after the death of Gilbert and Margery they shall remain intact to William of Hurleton and Matilda his wife in default of issue they shall fall to Richard of Sutton and Jane his wife or to Jane's heirs if they or she have no issue then to Adam of Jenkynsone of Bekansawe in default of issue to William son of John son of Roger Stevenson of Parbolt in default of issue to Gilbert brother of said William then to Alice daughter of Richard Sparowyn then to Emma daughter of John of Aspynewalle then to right heirs of Gilbert of Gosfordsiche.

Given at Scarisbrek on Tuesday after St. Hilary (Jan. 14) in the 13th year of Richard II.

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135. [1387.] Let the present and future know that I Elena Pevant in my pure virginity have granted and by this present charter have confirmed to Gilbert of Gosforsiche and Ada of Whatton all my lands and tenements in vill of Scaresbrek together with common pasture and turbary and all easements of the said To be held of the chief lords for due services.

Given at Scaresbrek on Sunday after the Translation of St. Swithin (July 15) in the 9th year of Richard II.

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136. [1394-1395.] Be it clear to all that I Robert of Aghton have authorised and appointed in my place the beloved in Christ Henry of Scaresbrek junior to be my true and lawful attorney to

deliver full and peaceful possession to Alan Decunson and Thomas of Waley of all my lands in that plot called Selkar in Scaresbrek which I have given by deed to the said Alan.

Given at Caterall on Tuesday the Feast of the Purification of the B. Mary Virgin (Feb. 2) in the 18th year of Richard II.

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137. [1398.] Let the present and future know that I William of Gretteby of Aspynwalle have given to Adam Brekdel chaplain and his assigns all my messuages lands tenements which I had on the day of the making of these presents in Aspynwalle and Gorstyfeld within vills of Scaresbrek and Hurleton To be held with all liberties of the chief lords for usual services.

Given at Aspynwalle on Sunday before Feast of St. Luke the Evangelist (Oct. 18) in the 21st year of Richard II.

Witnesses: Henry of Scaresbrek, William of Hurleton, Thomas of Aspynwalle, and others.

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138. [1399.] This indenture testifies to all that I Henry of Scaresbrek senior have granted to William le Strynger for one score and 19 years all messuages lands tenements etc. with appurtenances called Wythynsnape in vills of Scaresbrek and Hurleton with common pasture and turbary Rent 16 shillings of silver to be paid in equal portions at Pentecost and at St. Martin's in winter In whose testimony William aforesaid affixed his seal to this writing which is to remain in the possession of Henry Scaresbrek.

Given at Scaresbrek on Monday before the Feast of St. Martin (Nov. 11) in winter in the 1st year of Henry IV.

Seal: The letter R between two leaves.

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139. [1401.] Let the present and future know that we John Dany (or Davy) chaplain and Willlam of Eccleston clerk have granted to William Dikonsone of Scaresbrek and Margerie his wife all messuages &c. which we had by the gift and feoffment of the said William in the vill of Scaresbrek &c To have and to hold to them or to the longer liver of the chief lords for the customary service Remainder to John their son and his heirs remainder to John son of John Dikonsone and his heirs remainder to Robert brother to the said John son of John Dikonsone and his heirs remainder to Henry son of Henry of Scaresbrek and his heirs.

Witnesses: Gilbert of Halsall knight, Nicholas of Atherton knight, Richard of Bradshaigh, John del Car of Latham, John of Blyth, and others.

Given at Scaresbrek on Sunday after the Feast of All Saints (Nov. 1st) in the 3rd year of Henry IV.

140. [1402-1403.] To all those to whom these shall come Richard of Twisilton chaplain health in God I testify the things that are true for I testify before God and all good people that William of Hurleton swore in the house of Gilbert of Gosfordsiche before me and several other people of the espousals made between him and Maud daughter of the said Gilbert and that the said William would never claim of the inheritance of the said Gilbert which might disinherit or grieve Richard of Sutton cr the jointure of his wife or his heirs in time to come. In testimony of which I have set my seal at Croston the Sunday before the Purification of our Lady (Feb. 2) in the 4th year of Henry IV.

Seal: the letter R.

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141. [1405.] This indenture made between Henry of Halsale Parson of the church of Halsale and Henry of Scaresbrek and Johanna widow of Henry father of aforesaid Henry of Scaresbrek Witnesseth that Robert of Halsale brother of Henry of Halsale will marry Ellen daughter of Henry of Scaresbrek for which marriage to be had the aforesaid Henry of Scaresbrek and Johanna shall give to the said Henry of Halsal 200 marks or silver viz. on the day of the solemnization of the said marriage 50 marks at Easter following 20 marks and at the Nativity of Our Lord 20 marks and yearly at these Feasts 20 marks until the 200 are paid And afterwards the said Henry of Halsale shall enfeoff the said Robert and Ellen in 10 librates (land yielding £10 yearly) of land for the term of his life And if Robert die before Henry then the said Henry shall make a reasonable feoffment to the said Ellen for her life And if Ellen die within three years without heirs by Robert then Henry of Halsale shall pay to Henry of Scaresbrek 100 marks at these Feasts and in sums until 200 marks are paid That these covenants may be kept the parties are mutually bound in £200 to each other Alternately sealed.

Given at Halsale on Tuesday after Feast of St. Mark (April 25) in the 6th year of Henry IV.

Seal: Within a border indented 2 bars; inscription: + S + HALSALE + HALSALE + HALSALE. [See No. 17, plate xxxiii. vol. xii. (N.S.) of this Society's *Transactions.*]

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142. [1405-1406.] Let present and future know that we Richard of Twysselton and John of Walton chaplains have granted to Jane widow of Richard of Sutton all messuages lands tenements reversions &c with appurtenances in vills of Hurleton cum Scaresbrek Aghton near Lydeyate Uplitherlond Northmeols and Lathum without reserve the which we had by gift and feoffment of the said Jane To have and to hold all the aforesaid

with pasture turbary liberties and easements of the chief lords for due services And after her death remainder to Gilbert of Sutton and if he die without heirs then to Thomas of Sutton then to John of Sutton then to Richard of Sutton then to Robert of Sutton then to Henry of Sutton then to Cecily and Ellen sisters of Henry and if they die without heirs then to the right heirs of the said Jane.

Witnesses: Henry of Skaresbrek, Robert of Halsale, Richard of Bradshagh, William of Holand, William of Cunlegh clerk, and others.

Given at Skaresbrek on Sunday after the Feast of St. Gregory Pope (March 12th) in the 7th year of Henry IV.

Seal: Letter R, with spray to left. Fancy seal of lion dormant in front of foliage. Inscription: S . . . BANASTRE.

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143. [1405-1406.] Know the present and future that I Jane formerly wife of Richard Sutton have granted to Richard Twisselton chaplain and to John of Walton chaplain all my messuages lands etc which I have in vill of Hurleton cum Scaresbrek in Aghton near Lydeyate Uplitherlond Northmoels and Lathum with all rights liberties common pasture and turbary To be held of the chief lords of the fee for due and rightful services.

Witnesses: Henry of Scaresbrek, Robert of Halsale, Richard of Bradshagh, William of Holand, William of Tunlogh clerk, and others.

Given at Scaresbrek on Wednesday after the Feast of St. Vincent Martyr (Jan. 22) in the 7th year of Henry IV.

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144. [1400-1401.] Be it remembered That whereas Thomas Holland formerly Earl of Kent John Holand formerly Earl of Huntyngdon John Montague formerly Earl of Salisbury Thomas formerly Lord le Despenser and Ralph Lomley knight lately in divers parts of England of themselves levied war traitorously against our Lord the King and against their allegiance for to destroy our said Lord the King and other great men of the realm with men of another tongue engaged in their said levy of war by the loyal lieges of our said Lord the King were taken and beheaded And notwithstanding the Lords temporal assembled in the Parliament held at Westminster on the octave of St. Hilary (Jan. 21) in the 2nd year of the reign of our said Lord the King by assent of the King declared and adjudged the said Thomas John John Thomas and Ralph for traitors for the levy of war against their liege lord aforesaid and that they have forfeited as traitors all their lands and tenements which they had in fee simple on the 5th day of January the Vigil of the Feast of the Epiphany of our Lord Jesus Christ the first year of the reign of

our lord the King above said or since as the law of the land requires together with all their goods and chattels notwithstanding they were put to death in the said levy of war without process of law The names of the Lords that were present at the said declaration so follow:—

Henry Prince of Wales, Edmonde Duke of York, Edward Earl of Rotland, Thomas Earl of Arundell, John Earl of Somerset, Edmund Earl of Stafford, Henry Earl of Northumberland, Ralph Earl of Westmorland, Thomas Earl of Wyrcestre, Michael Earl of Suffolk, Richard Lord de Grey of Codenore, Thomas Lord of Berkele, John Lord of Cherleton, Reginald Lord de Grey of Ruthyn, Thomas Lord of Camoys, Thomas Lord of Furnivall, Robert Lord of Scales, John Lord of Beamonde, William Lord of Wylougby, Hugh Lord of Burnell, William Lord of Ferrers of Groby, William Lord of Bergeveny, John Lord of Lovell, Robert of Haryngton, Richard Le Scrope.

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145. [1386.] Let the present and future know that I Adam of Whatton have granted to Thomas of Harbergh chaplain and Richard of Sutton all my lands and tenements with appurtenances in the vills of Scaresbrek Aghton and Ormeskirk and a hamlet in Lathum To have and to hold of the chief lords of the fee for due services.

Given at Scaresbrek on Wednesday after the Feast of St. Nicholas the Bishop (Dec. 6) in the 8th year of Richard II.

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146. [1408?] In the name of God Amen I John of Bolde knight make my testament at this time In the first place I bequeath my soul to Almighty God (in trust) and to His Mother Mary and to all His holy field sheep of heaven and my body to be buried wherever it will be Item I bequeath my best beast to Prescote in the name of principal (in honour of his patron Saint?) Also it is my Will that all my debts be paid out of my goods Also I bequeath to Christian of Belfeld and Edward his son 40 marks and to Katherine his daughter £40 and the remainder of my goods to be used for my soul Also I have ordained to be my executors Harry of Scharysbrec the father and William Daniel for great trust to fulfil my Will also I bequeath to each of them 40 shillings for their labour.

In the witness of this I have set my seal at Bolde the 22nd day of October the 9th year of King Harry (probably IV.)

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147. [1412.] This indenture made between Henry of Scaresbrek on the one part and Hugh of Aghton on the other testifies that as a disagreement had arisen between these two regarding

certain portions of moor meadow and pasture they agree to abide by the ordinance of Henry of Halsale Parson of Halsale and Nicholas Blundell (probably of Little Crosby) for themselves and heirs under a penalty of £100 to each other In testimony of which the said parties have interchangeably set their seals.

Written at Lancaster on Monday the Feast of St. Lawrence the Martyr (Aug. 10) in the 12th year of Henry IV.

Seal: Octagonal; on a helm with mantlet, a garb; at the sides T R, and below the helm a heart pierced with an arrow. [See No. 13, plate xxxiii, vol. xii (N.S.) of this Society's *Transactions.*]

(In Norman French.)

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148. [1414.] This indenture witnesses that as Hugh of Aspynwall Robert Attekynson of Snape and Thomas de Hesketh of Scaresbrek by their bond are firmly bound to William of Goldburne in £100 to be paid on certain days nevertheless the said William grants and wills for himself and his heirs that if the said Hugh brings to assize the said William and his wife and all the lands and tenements that he claims from them as his right in Scaresbrek and enters his plea that the said muniments and deeds are false and suffers the assize to pass without delay or evidence against them so that the said muniments and deeds may be affirmed good and legal and the said Hugh remain in his right which peradventure may descend to him from them in time to come nor that he be excluded from 5s. of rent for his life according to the ordinance and arbitration of John de Stanley That then the said obligation of £100 be void but otherwise remain in force.

In witness of which matter to this defeasance indented as well the seals of the said John de Stanley, as of the said parties are put.

Written at Lathum on the 18th day of September, the 2nd year of Henry V.

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149. [1403.] Let the present and future know that I John le Ring and Jane my wife have granted to Robert of Bradeshagh and Margaret his wife one burgage with buildings and also half a burgage lying outside the cemetery of the church at Ormeskirk To have and to hold of the chief lords of the fee for customary dues.

Witnesses: Gilbert of Halsale knight, Nicholas of Atherton knight, Henry of Scaresbrek the younger, Richard of Bradeshagh, Richard of Sutton, John of Carre, Matthew of Sale clerk, and others.

Given at Ormeskirk on Monday before Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (June 24th) in the 3rd year of Henry IV.

Seal: Geometrical ornament repeated twice.

150. [1416.] Let the present and future know that I John son of Gilbert son of Richard Botoksone have granted to Henry of Scaresbrek knight and Isabella his wife and their lawful issue all my messuages lands tenements and appurtenances which I had on the day of the making of this instrument in the vill of Scaresbrek without any reserve To be held of the chief lords by due services and if the said Isabella die without heirs then all to revert to the said Henry.

Witnesses: William of Ethelston, Robert of Halsale, Richard of Bradshagh, William of Hurleton, Roger Glyn clerk, and others.

Given at Scaresbrek on Tuesday in Whitweek, in the 4th year of Henry V.

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151. [1418.] This indenture witnesses that I Matilda who was wife of Roger of Bradshagh of Litherlond have covenanted with Henry of Scaresbrek knight in consequence of the marriage of Richard of Bradshagh my son and heir apparent to Isabella daughter of the said Henry for which marriage the said Henry shall give and pay to me 80 marks of silver on certain days by two instalments for which the said Henry and others are bound under a certain statute of the merchants of Wygan to enfeoff the said Richard and Isabella with all my manor of Uplitherlond with all its appurtenances messuages lands meadows woods pastures moors mosses rents of all free and other tenants except a windmill in the said manor before the Feast of All Saints next following if I am alive on the day of the celebration of the espousals of Richard and Isabella And I further undertake not to alienate or enfeoff any of the residue of my inheritance within the county of Lancaster But if the said Isabella die within a year of espousals with Richard and they have no heir male then the said Henry shall be released from the payment of 40 marks out of the 80 . . . .

Witnesses: Henry of Longton, Lorine (Lawrence) of Newton, Thomas of Bradshagh.

Given at . . . . in the 5th year of Henry V.

[Somewhat frayed and illegible.]

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152. [1420.] William Renhagh Canon of the Cathedral of Lichfield and Vicar-General in Spirituals of William by the grace of God Lord Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield grants to Jane of Scaresbryg that in all her oratories within the said diocese in becoming places she may have masses and other divine services in a low voice by any suitable chaplain in the presence of her or the children or her family provided that no prejudice hence arise to the mother churches to last until the said Renhagh deems it should be revoked.

Given at Lichfield under the official episcopal seal on the 15th day of February 1420.

153. [1424.] Let the present and future know that I Henry of Scaresbrek have granted to Richard Smyth chaplain and to John del Greves chaplain and their assigns all my manor of Scaresbrek and Ekergarth with all their appurtenances and all messuages lands and tenements rents services together with buildings meadows wood pastures mills waters wardships reliefs marriages escheats with all appurtenances that I had on the making of this instrument within the county of Lancaster without any reservation together with reversions which Joanna widow of Henry of Scaresbrek and Isabella my mother hold to the end of their lives.

Witnesses: Robert of Halsale, Richard of Burscough, Richard del Shagh the elder, and others.

Given at Scaresbrek on Monday after the Feast of St. Martin Bishop (Nov. 11) in the 3rd year of Henry VI.

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154. [1427.] Let all know by these presents that I Elizabeth who was wife of Gilbert of Hurleton have remitted and released both for myself and heirs and have quitclaimed to Henry of Scaresbrek Gilbert of Scaresbrek William of Scaresbrek Thomas of Scaresbrek John of Irton Edward Banastre Nicholas del Abbay and Richard Harreson all kinds of actions personal and appellant and all other actions which I have had have or may have in the future against them by reason or cause of the death of the aforesaid Gilbert my husband.

Given on Monday in the first week of Lent in the 5th year of Henry VI.

Seal: a garb between two sprays.

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155. [1429.] At the Lancaster Sessions on Friday before the Feast of St. Lawrence (Aug. 10) in the 7th year of Henry VI (Roll xxxi.) On which day there came in their own persons Henry of Scaresbrek and Richard Bold by command of the Sheriff because John Bold Henry Norreys and John Savage did not appear An Inquisition was held by him at Ormeskirk on Thursday before the Feast of the Most Holy Trinity in 7th year of the reign of our lord now King of England by the oath of Henry Halsale Richard of Bradshagh of Letherlond Simon of Ines Richard del Shagh the younger Richard Tatlock Henry of Asshehurst Roger Nayler Robert Brohed John Jenkynson of Heskyn John Botill of Rys Robert Ante John Harreson of Skaresbrek Hugh of Aspynwole and Henry Spencer it was found that Margaret Peterson of Peter Richard of Kyghley Henry Halsall and Nicholas had no goods chattels lands etc. in the county of Lancaster on that day but the aforesaid John Bold had 20 oxen

12 cows and other goods and chattels of the value of £20 and the manor of Bold worth 100 marks that Henry Norreys had at Speke of the value of £10 and the manor of Speke of the value of £10 besides other lands in Gerstan and Halewode worth 24 marks and that John Savage had the manor of Westby and in right of his wife Elena 40 marks that the aforesaid had not other goods chattels or lands etc. that the aforesaid Henry of Scaresbrek and Richard of Bolde had suffered a loss of the value of 20 marks and that the aforesaid manors and tenements are worth annually £120 and the said Sheriff by virtue of the Inquisition on Thursday after the Feast of St. Mary Magdalen (July 22) in the 7th year of the reign of our lord King ordered Henry of Scaresbrek and Richard Bolde to have all the aforesaid manors and tenements and to hold the same until the losses and debt aforesaid are paid.

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156. [1432-1433.] Let all know by the present letters that we Nicholas of Hurleton James of Hurleton Thomas and John of Hurleton and John Savage knight and William of Stanley are firmly bound to Henry of Scaresbrek Henry of Halsale and Thomas of Barton in £300 sterling for merchandise bought from them to be paid to the same or their attorney heirs or executors at Easter next And unless we do we grant that they may fall upon us and each of us wholly our heirs and executors with full severity and penalties provided by the statute of the King at Acton Burnell and recited at Westminster In testimony of which we have affixed to these presents our seals and the seal of the merchants of Wigan.

Given at Wigan on Thursday after the Epiphany (Jan. 6) in the 11th year of Henry VI,

Seal of the Wigan statute merchant with legend on obverse: + S EDW REG ANGL AD RECOGN DEBITOR APUD WYGAN. On reverse: + SIGILLUM DE WYGAN. [See Nos. 14 and 15, plate xxxiii, vol. xii (N.S.), of this Society's *Transactions*.]

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157. [1433.] Let all present and future persons know that I Henry son of Henry Scaresbrek knight have granted to Richard of Smythe and John Lovelady chaplains all my manor of Scaresbrek except all the messuages lands tenements rents and services which Jane widow of Henry of Scaresbrek my grandfather holds as her dowry for the term of her life from the said Henry of Scaresbrek and except also all the messuages, lands &c of which I and my wife Katharine are conjointly enfeoffed To be held from the chief lords for due services.

Witnesses: Henry of Halsale, Richard of Bradshagh, Roger of Aghton, and others.

Given on Aug. 6th in the 11th year of Henry VI.

Seal: the letter E.

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158. [1435.] Know all present and future that I John Depedale have granted to Richard Madok and Robert Olyver chaplains all my lands messuages with their appurtenances in Okenheved and Snape in vill of Scaresbrek To have and to hold the same of the chief lords of the fee by due services In testimony of which I have affixed my seal.

Witnesses: Henry of Halsale, Richard of Bradshawe esquire, Gilbert of Sutton, and others.

Given at Scaresbrek on the Thursday after the Feast of St. Katherine Virgin (Nov. 25) in the 13th year of King Henry VI.

Seal: an eagle displayed.

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159. [1440.] Let the present and future know that I Henry Skaresbrek esquire have granted to Edward Banastre and William Becansawe chaplains all my lands tenements etc. in vill of Skaresbrek called the Otterhouseholme the Longheys in the Wyke the Pewe Hey with Chitfold the Polehey the Pewe meadow and Gyliot meadow To have and to hold together with appurtenances of the chief lords by due services.

Witnesses: Richard Hoghton knight, Edward Trafford knight, Henry Langton esquire, Henry Kyghley esquire, Henry Hoghton, and others.

Given at Skaresbrek on the 12th day of August in the 18th year of Henry VI.

Seal: a shield displaying three mullets between two bendlets engrailed; over it a helmet and mantling surmounted by a bird; within a garter on which is the legend in Old English characters, SIGILLUM HENRICI SCARESBREC. [See No. 11 plate xxxiii. vol. xii. (N.S.) of this Society's *Transactions*.]

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160. [1441.] Let the present and future know that we Edward Banastre and William Becansawe chaplains have granted to Henry Skaresbrek Esquire and Margery his wife all those lands tenements and meadows with their appurtenances which we had lately of the gift and feoffment of the aforesaid Henry in the vill of Skaresbrek To be had and held by the said Henry and Margery and their lawful heirs of the chief lords of the fee by usual service And if the said Henry and Margery die without male issue remainder to Margaret their daughter and her heirs Remainder to William brother of the aforesaid Henry and his

heirs Remainder to Gilbert brother of William Remainder to the rightful heirs of Henry and Margery.

Witnesses - Richard Hoghton knight, Edward Trafford knight, Henry Langton esquire, Henry Kyghley esquire, Henry Hoghton esquire, and others.

Given at Scaresbrek on the 14th day of September in the 19th year of Henry VI.

Seal: the letter w.

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161 and 161*a* (one being a duplicate of the other.) [1444.] This indenture made between Richard Sutton the elder and the heirs of Gilbert Sutton on the one part and Jane who was the wife of Gilbert on the other part Witnesses that Richard Sutton grants and delivers to Jane the third part of all his messuages lands rents etc. with appurtenances which were lately belonging to said Gilbert late husband of the said Jane in vills of Scaresbreck Burscogh Ormeskirke Aghton near Lideyate Uplitherland Northmeles Wygan Aspull Wrightyngton Walswithall Penwarthem and Ulneswalton as follows In the first place he gives all the messuages lands rents etc. which were Gilbert's in Penwartham and Ulneswalton and also the third part of one tenement in Walswithall now in the holding of Christopher Pemberton viz. the barn of the same tenement with garden on the west of the barn with another on the south end and a meadow shut in with hedges and one acre of land called Hobacre another acre called Suttons acre another field called the Four acre with a piece of waste land lying near the end of the field together with all the waste land lying between the field and a certain garden near the shippon which extends below the vineyard and also the old orchard with a third part of the waste south of the messuage and the third part of the waste between the messuage and the bakehouse extending as far as the Calfeheye and the third part of one tenement in Wrightyngton now in the holding of William Pemberton viz. a messuage of the said tenement and a cottage near with a garden called Boakyard and the old orchard and a certain close of land called Weywartfeld and another close called Shortshold and the third part of the waste so far as it extends to the gate leading to the highway also the third part of all lands tenements rents and services in Wygan viz. all the meadows called the Heghearmede and a toft of land near the Henhurstbrigge now in the holding of Hugh Orrell and five premises of annual rent Also the third part of a tenement in Aspull called the Boure and the third part of the barn on the south and half the curtilage on the east and an acre of land in the Bentheye lying in two places one acre in the Shepeheye and one third of an acre near the barn of Rodger Catterall half an

acre and one third of a rood in the Litell Longfeld with one third part of a piece of land called the Suer and its third part in Holynheye Also in Ormeskyrke the third part of one cottage and one curtilage And the said Richard delivered to the said Jane in vill of Burscogh half the land called Mustarfeld and a piece of meadow extending to two acres and one and a half acre of meadow which Henry Wyresdale Richard Sutton the elder and William Scaresbrek with Edward Banaster separately held last year To have and to hold in the name of her whole dowry falling to the said Jane from the marriage settlement of the said Gilbert her late husband In testimony of which the aforesaid Richard put his seal to these presents in the presence of Henry Scaresbrek Henry Halsall Thomas Hesketh Gilbert Halsall Rector of Halsall Church Nicholas Crok and Gilbert ffaryngton and very many others On the other part of this writing remaining in possession of said Richard the said Jane affixed her seal in the presence of the above

Given on the Feast of St. Martin in winter (Nov. 11th) in the 23rd year of Henry VI.

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162. [1446.] Be this knawyn to all trew crystyn pepill that on the Sonday next after the fest of ye translation of Saynt Thomas the martyre (July 7) the yere of the regne of Kyng Henry the Sext the xxiiiith in the parish kyrk of Ormeskyrk the tyme of the hegh Masse in presence and audience of all the parishioners of the same parish and of us Robert Wodward Prior of the house of Saynt Nicholas of Burschogh all his cochanons Gilbert Parson of the kyrk of Halsall Henry Halsall Henry Atherton Thomas Lathum Henry Byrom Ewan Standish Hugh Aghton John Atherton and Thomas Fox one Roger Naden at y^t time ther beyng of his own free will and noght constreynyt sware upon the holy evangelistes that he never made feofment alienation dede nor relese nor bargan of sale to James of the Holt fader unto Henry of the Holt nor to the said Henry nor to noon other persone outaken (unknown) to Henry of Scaresbrek of certeyne londs liyng within the said parish of Ormeskyrk called Huyton Feld and the said Roger at y^t tyme desireth the sentence of cursyng to be gyvyn upon hym if his othe were noght trew the which was fulfillid by the Viker of the said kyrk and then farthwyth the yere day and place presence and audience above said in affermance of the said othe One Thomas Crofte of the said town of Ormeskyrk yoman a man of credence gode name and fame and of lxxx yere of age and more sware upon a boke that to his knawledge and supposyng that othe the whech the said Roger hade sworn was trew for and any such fefment or

alienation . . . should have been made to any persone the said Thomas shuld have had knawledge therof by reson by cause he had the said feld in ferme x yere contynually next before the said Roger Naden had any thynge ther in and also all the while the said Roger had ther in unto the time he made feffement unto the said Henry of Scaresbrek of the whech fefment the said Thomas Croft had knawledge and attentorned unto the said Henry of Scaresbrek and never unto any other persone by force or vertue of any alienation or fefment of the said lond by the said Roger unto any other persone or persons made nor of none such alienation or feffment to any other persone or persons by the said Roger of the said lond made the said Thomas Croft sware in same reherset y^t he had no never notice nor knawledge nor gave information In wytnes of the whech thyng we whos names been above writyn unto this owre testimoniall have sett oure selys.

Gyvyn the day and yere above said.

Seals: (1) monogram TC; (2) a paschal lamb; (3) Gothic letter B under a crown; (4) a St. Andrew's cross; (5) Gothic letter M; (6) fragment of the fine ecclesiastical seal of Robert Woodward, Prior of Bnrscough. [See No. 4 plate xxxii. vol. xii. (N.S.) of this Society's *Transactions.*]

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163. [1447.] William by divine permission Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield wishes to his beloved children in Christ Henry Scaresbrek squire and his consort Margery health grace and blessing and grants that they or either of them may lawfully cause to be celebrated in their chapels or oratories and in any other places within our Diocese suitably constructed provided the places be becoming and honorable by suitable chaplains whomsoever masses and other divine offices in a low voice in their presence or in the presence of either of them or of the children of their family so however that no other ecclesiastical sacraments be administered and that no prejudice happens to the mother church such places if no canon forbids it and grants to them and to either of them and to such chaplains by the tenor of these presents special leave to last for four years from the term given to these presents In witness of which we have caused our seal to be affixed to these presents at Manchester on the 19th day of the month of September in the year of the Lord 1447 and of our consecration the first.

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164. [1451.] Identical permission but only during his pleasure. Given under his seal in his manor of Heywode on the 5th day of the month of July in the year of the Lord 1451 and of his consecration the fifth.

165. [1451.] In the name of God Amen By the present public instrument let it be evident to all that in the year from the Incarnation according to the computation of the Anglican Church 1451 indiction xv in the 5th year year of the Pontificate of Nicholas V on the 23rd day of January in the cemetery of the church of Halsalle in the Diocese of Litchfield in the presence of me a notary public and subscribing witnesses the venerable man Henry of Scaresbrek esquire of the same diocese had reduced to writing a certain protestation and had it publicly read by another in these words In the name of God Amen Before you eminent men and a person to take authentic cognizance and these witnesses present I Henry of Scaresbrek esquire of the Diocese of Litchfield state allege and in these writings propound that I was born of lawful wedlock that I am of sound estate of good repute of uninjured eharacter not suspended nor excommunicated nor interdicted nor found guilty of any notable crime fearing for probable reasons and likely conjectures that prejudice may in the future with regard to the aforesaid arise against me Lest anyone by any authority colour or command attempt any prejudice against me by advising citing suspending excommunicating interdicting disturbing disquieting troubling or in any other way oppressing I call upon and appeal to the Apostolic See and the Primatial Court of Canterbury in these writings if and as far as there is a right of petition I petition firstly secondly thirdly instantly pressingly more instantly and most instantly Subjecting myself and all my adherents to the protection and defence of the said See and Court, and I protest that in the event of any future trouble of any kind I wish to appeal and to prosecute my appeal with effect.

Given &c year and indiction stated in the presence of the venerable and discreet men Master Gilbert Halsall Bachelor in Sacred Theology Rector of the Parish Church of Halsall Henry of Halsall esquire Lord of Halsall Hugh of Ashton Richard of Halsall gentleman of the Diocese of Litchfield and others witnesses specially called.

And I Richard of Pleymudstowe of the Diocese of Litchfield Apostolic and Imperial Notary Public caused the above to be done and written as asked on the date etc. above given.

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166. [1451.] Let the present and future know that we Nicholas Blundell son of Henry Blundell and Robert Blundell clerk have granted to Henry Blundell esquire all those messuages lands etc. which John Johnson John Griffre senior Gilbert Thomasson John Gibenson Gilbert Man and Robert Goldyng now hold of us at our will in Little Crosby and Ince Blundell and also one parcel of meadow in Crosby aforesaid called

Wildcattes acre To have and to hold the same for the whole term of his life remainder to Margaret daughter of Henry Scarisbrek for her life remainder to Nicholas son of me Nicholas and his heirs remainder to Henry Blundell and his heirs In case of divorce £100 to be paid by said Nicholas Blundell and his father to Henry Scarisbrek.

Witnesses: Henry Halsale esquire, Hugh Aghton esquire, Thomas Scarisbrek and others.

Given at Crosby 27th January in the 30th year of Henry VI.

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167. [1451-1452.] (Marriage Trust of Nicholas Blundell and Margaret Scaresbrek) Let the present and future know that we Nicholas Blundell son of Henry Blundell and Robert Blundell clerk have granted to Margaret daughter of Henry Scaresbrek all messuages lands rents etc. which Robert Warton John Rawlynson Robert Jankynson Marjory Whyk and Agnes del Morehouse separately hold at our pleasure within the vills of Little Crosby and Ince Blundell and which we have had among others by the gift and feoffment of the aforesaid Henry Blundell To have and to hold the same to the said Margaret for the term of her life without impeachment or hindrance And after the decease of the said Margaret to remain in their integrity to Nicholas son of me Nicholas Blundell and my lawful heirs Remainder to Robert Blundell his heirs and assigns To hold from the chief lords for due services Provided always that if in the future a divorce take place in the Ecclesiastical Courts between Nicholas and Margaret at the suit of the said Margaret only and that the cause of that divorce proceeded from the said Margaret and that the espousals or marriage are held to be void or null then we the said Nicholas and Henry agree to pay to Henry Scaresbrek or his executors £100 within five years after the said divorce and the said Margaret shall give up possession of the messuages etc. secured to her by this writing and the same shall revert to the aforesaid Nicholas son of me Nicholas after the decease of the said Margaret and all the aforesaid shall cease expire and be of no value In testimony of which we have affixed our seals to this paper.

Witnesses: Henry Halsall, Hugh Aghton, Thomas of Scaresbrek, and others.

Given at Crosby on the 25th day of the month of January in the 30th year of Henry VI.

Seals: (1) illegible; (2) crowned R between two sprays.

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168. [1468.] Let all present and future know that we Hugh Lathum chaplain and Gilbert Hurdilton have demised to Agnes Scaresbrek daughter of Henry Scaresbrek all those messuages

lands and tenements which we lately had by gift and feoffment from Nicholas Hurdylton in the vills and fields of Longton and Hurdilton To have and to hold to her and her heirs male by Robert Hurdilton lawfully begotten Remainder to the heirs of the said Robert Hurdilton.

Witnesses: Henry Halsall, Hugh Aghton, John Aghton esquire, and others.

Given at Hurdilton on the 17th of April in the 3rd year of Edward IV.

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169. [1468.] This indenture made between Henry Scaresbrek squire npon the one part and Nicholas Hurdleton upon the other part bears witness that the said Nicholas hath granted the marriage of his son and heir apparent Robert Hurdleton to Agnes the daughter of the said Henry between this and the feast of St. George next (April 23) Also that the said Nicholas shall enfeoff Hugh of Lathum priest and Gilbert Hurdleton of lands etc. in Hurlton and Longton discharged of statute rent charge and all other incumbrances to the value of 100 shillings a year The said Hugh and Gilbert to enfeoff Agnes Scaresbrek and her heirs male by Robert of the same estate Remainder at will of said Nicholas For the which marriage the said Henry grants ten marks at the espousals five at feast of St. Michael (September 29) and five at Pentecost and so yearly And if the said Agnes die without heirs by Robert within three years Nicholas shall pay the said Henry all he has received (Mutual bond in 100 marks).

Given at Hurdleton April 20 of 3rd year of Edward IV.

Seal of red wax: a letter T crowned. *(In English.)*

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170. [1472.] Indulgence from Order of Our Lady of Mercy to William and Margaret Waleys Brother Robert minister of the house of St. Robert at Knaresborough in York diocese of the order of the Holy Trinity for the Redemption of Captives who are imprisoned by pagans for the faith of Jesus Christ and by the Divine mercy Vicar General of and Provincial of the whole order in England to our beloved in Christ William Walleys and his wife Margaret health and sincere charity in the Lord Since among the privileges granted from ancient times by the Apostolic See to us and to our order and confirmed by a late grant and among these special remedies are contained the following indulgences To all those truly penitent and shriven or wishing to confess who stretch forth their hands to the support of the order as often as they do so we relax 6 years and 80 days of diminished satisfaction To those who annually contribute to our brothers or friends

they can choose a suitable confessor and if truly contrite he can grant them full absolution for those sins for which recourse has to be had to the Apostolic See Each brother can have a burial place among the brethren unless ecclesiastical sepulture is forbidden We dispense or commute into other pious works pilgrimages except to the Apostles Peter and Paul and to St. James Also by the presents we grant privileges indulgences favours and that they may choose a confessor who shall give them suitable penance and absolve them from cases reserved to the Apostolic See.

Given under our seal in our house 1472.

[Endorsed] By the authority of God the Father Almighty of the blessed Apostles Peter and Paul and by the authority of the Apostolic See granted to me for this purpose I absolve thee from all thy sins by thee truly confessed to me and also from all the sins which are forgotten and which thou wishest to confess if they occurred to thy memory and full absolution and remission of all thy sins in so far as the keys of the church have power by Apostolic authority I give and grant to thee brother In the name of the Father etc.

Fragment of a vesica shaped seal: a figure seated reading a book, round it the legend: SANC ROBERTI DE . . . . [See No. 6, plate xxxii, vol. xii. (N.S.) of this Society's *Transactions*.]

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171. [1476.] James Scaresbrek esquire Justice of the Peace of the King and Constable of the county of Lancaster sendeth greeting to all John Longbok comes before him and gives a recognizance of £20 to keep the peace towards Robert Johnson late of Lydgate.

Given and sealed on December 12th in the 11th year of Edward IV. [Much defaced.]

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172. [1476.] This indenture witnesses that as strife had arisen between Henry Halsall Lord of Halsall and James Scarisbrek Lord of Scarisbrek about boundaries between Rynakirs and Shirwallacres both parties were bound in the sum of £40 to abide by the arbitration of Richard Prior of Burscogh Robert Hesketh Nicholas Aghton and John Chaunterell knight We the aforesaid arbitrators having read characters and muniments and having had the evidence of certain old inhabitants on their oaths, ordain and arbitrate as follows Beginning at the end of Sewker where the Whitsuch falls into it where a stone is now placed thence to an old ditch between Rynakirs and Shirwallacres to a large stone thence following the stones placed by the arbitrators to the

Rodelath lying between Wolfehawe and Shirwallacres thence to two large stones to the bank of Shirwallacres Mewre (Mere) so that all the lands and moor on the north as far as Snape remain to James Scarisbrek and his heirs and all lands and moor outside the stones and boundaries on the west as far as the church of Halsall remain to Henry Halsall and his heirs And for greater security the said arbitrators affixed their seals to this indenture.

Given at Scarisbrek on the Assumption of B. Mary Virgin (August 15) in the 11th year of Edward IV.

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173. [1481.] Let all present and future know that I John Thomasson have granted to Gilbert Sutton and his heirs one messuage and eight acres of land lying between Whassam Hyle and a house of Murgen in Murgen in Scharesbreck in county of Lancaster To have and to hold the same with all appurtenances together with common pasture and all other easements paying on St. John the Baptist's day (June 24) if asked for one peppercorn for all services exactions and demands Moreover I have appointed and placed in my stead the beloved in Christ John Sutton as my true attorney to enter into the aforesaid messuage and land and give full and perfect possession to Gilbert Sutton.

Given on the 12th day of January in the year of the Lord 1481 and 21st of Edward IV.

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174. [1483 (about).] Much defaced, and almost illegible. Release from the Prior of Burscogh to James Scaresbreke esquire.

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175. [1468.] Let all present and future know that I Nicholas Hurdylton have granted to Hugh Lathum chaplain and Gilbert Hurdylton all my messuages lands tenements with their appurtenances lying in vill and fields of Longton and all my lands and tenements in the tenancy of John Greves John Golburne Henry Greves John Barton William Scaresbrek, Gilbert Arnold and Thomas Ley, the Morefyld the Brownehill House the Bedcokfeld and the Oggs (Hogs) acre and one rood of land in Hurlyton together with rent of 6d. arising from Marshall house of Henry Scaresbrek 6d. from the marshe of Wm. Haryngton 12d. from the Causeyfield 14d. from Hugh Asmoll 12d. from Robert Becunsall 7d. from Wm. Golburne 4d. from Richard Shagh, 20d. from John Barton 7d. from Agnes Goulburne and 6d. arising from Hodelstonlond To have and to hold of the chief lords by due services.

Witnesses: Henry Halsall Hugh of Aghton Thomas Bradshagh John Aghton and many others.

Given at Hurdylton on the 10th day of April in the 3rd year of Edward IV.

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176. [1482.] Know that I Henry Becansaw of the county of Lancaster gentleman acknowledge receipt of 100 shillings from James Scarisbrick esquire in part payment of a larger sum owing by him to be paid on the Feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist and I quitclaim for self and assigns the said sum . . . . of the month of June in the 17th year of Edward IY.

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177. [1490.] Let the present and future know that I James Scaresbreke the elder esquire have granted to Thomas Assheton esquire all that piece and close of my land and meadows with appurtenances in vill of Scaresbreke called the Fall and the Fall Mede now in the tenancy of Thomas Tunstale and the land in Snowfeld now in tenancy of Henry Holand and all the lands called Wythines Mede the Bothegrene the Pikhill the Mosshey now in the tenancy of Alice lately wife of Thomas Shirlacres together with turbary and free pasture and free entrance and exit To be held of the chief lord of the fee for due service And I appoint as my attorney my beloved in Christ Hugh Aspenwall to deliver the same.

Witnesses: Thomas Gerard, Alexander Houghton, William Stanley of Hooton knight and others.

Given at Scarisbreke on Monday after All Saints (November 1) 5th year of Henry VII.

Seal: a shield displaying three mullets between two bendlets engrailed; over it a helmet and mantling surmounted by a bird within a garter on which is the legend in old English characters SIGILLUM HENRIC: SCARESBREC. [The same seal was used apparently to seal No. 159 in 1440.]

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178. [1486.] Indenture of June 4th in the 1st year of Henry VII between Gylbert Sutton of Scaresbreke gentleman and John Crosse of Lyverpool gentleman Witnesses that the said Gylbert agrees that his son and heir apparent John Sutton shall wed Mary Crosse daughter of John Crosse after the Feast of St. James (July 25th) next The said Gylbert agrees that before the time he shall make unto Sir Henry Lathom and Sir William Longley chaplains a sufficient estate in fee simple in lands etc. of the yearly value of 4 marks and that the said Sir Henry and Sir William shall within 10 days hand over in trust the said estate to

Mary Crosse for her life Remainder to her heirs Remainder in default of such to Gylbert and his heirs The said Gylbert covenants not to sell or alienate any lands etc. now his or that may descend to him so that all may descend after the death of Gylbert to the said John Sutton except an estate of four marks for Margaret the wife of Gilbert John Crosse agrees to pay 50 marks to Gilbert or 40 shillings to his wife at St. Martin's Feast and Pentecost by instalments If Mary Crosse die within 5 years half of such sums to be repaid.

Seal: a stork; being the crest of the Crosse family, of Crosse Hall, Liverpool: motto illegible. *(In English.)*

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179. [1492.] Let the present and future know that we William of Stanley of Hooton and Thomas Bolton knights James Strateberell and James Molyneux clerks William Kirkby Robert Shakerly esquires and Robert Sotheworth gentleman enfeoffed by James Scaresbrek the elder esquire have granted to James Scaresbrek all the messuages burgages rents fishing rights etc. which we had by gift of James Scaresbrek and which he had lately by gift and feoffment of Hugh Lathom and Gilbert Shirlacres chaplains in the vills of Purbalde Wrighttyngton and Dalton near Dowglas in county of Lancaster and also all the messuages burgages etc. which James had by gift from Robert Grodley and his wife Cecilia in the borough of Ormeskyrke in the vill of Lathom and Eccleston Fields and burgages near the church of Ormeskyrke and a close near Ormeswall called Kingsheye and a messuage in Scaresbrek in the tenancy of Alexander Ormonthagh two closes in Scaresbrek called Whassomheyes with a piece of land within Marton Mere called the Fishery of Wycke. To have and to hold all the above for the term of his life without impeachment of the waste and of the chief lords of the fee by due service and after his decease all such to remain to James Scaresbrek the younger Remainder to Gilbert Scaresbrek son and heir of James Scaresbrek the elder and if he die without lawful male issue Remainder to the right heirs of James Scaresbrek the elder The above trustees furthermore appoint their beloved in Christ William Stanley of Hooton the younger and Robert Henbure esquire to be their true and lawful attorneys to deliver full and peaceful possession seizin In testimony of which we have affixed our seals.

Witnesses: Thomas Earl of Derbie and Lord Stanley, George Stanley knight Lord Strange, Alexander Houghton, Peter Legh, Richard Longton knights, and many others.

Given at Scaresbrek on the 15th day of September in the 10th year of Henry VII.

One seal a fleur de lys; the others illegible.

180. [1496.] This Indenture made on the 14th day of May in the 11th year of Henry VII between Elizabeth widow of James Scaresbrek esquire and their son James on the one part and Gilbert Scaresbrek esquire heir apparent of James Scaresbrek on the other part Witnesseth that whereas the said Elizabeth and James the elder have certain messuages lands and tenements by the gift and feoffment of James Scaresbrek the elder the said Gilbert is agreed and granteth that the said Elizabeth and James shall peaceably have and occupy all such mosslands and tenements with their appurtenances for the term of their lives saving that the tenants of these mosslands shall obey the courts of the said Gilbert and do service and homage to him and to his heirs and the said Elizabeth granteth by these presents not to take income of the tenants now dwelling there during the life of any such tenant so that they do as tenants ought to do and if any tenant deceaseth or leaveth the lands then the said Elizabeth shall take her advantage in getting and letting so that she may have such as will do service for Gilbert if he be called forth And Gilbert grants that Elizabeth and her son James shall peaceably remove enjoy and occupy all the goods and chattels which they have within Scaresbrek or elsewhere on the day the making of this without interference or let And to all covenants and articles in these presents the said parties are bound by 500 marks to 60 pounds on a certain day and year as in the said obligation more plainly may appear And if any clause above rehearsed be difficult or not formally indited such clause to be renewed or performed by John Hawardyn and Robert Chantrell.

In witness whereof the said parties have set their seals at Scaresbrek the day and year above named.

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181. [1522.] Let all present and future know that we Henry Halsall knight John Pynnyngton esquire Walter Strykland esquire William Kyrkby esquire Richard Halsall clerk Rector of the parochial church of Halsall and John Asbronner clerk Rector of the parochial church of Warburtuayt by the assent and request of Roland Kyrkby esquire have granted and delivered to Henry Kyghley knight John Botteler esquire Thomas Southworth and Henry Halsall chaplains all our messuages lands &c with appurtenances in Bolton in Cowpeland Gosforth Clayton Haill Buttill Hysemore and Force in the county of Cumberland of the annual value of £10 now or lately in the tenancy of Robert Dicson William Oxxurs Cuthbert Preston John Hudson John Cuppeame Robert Jacson Nicholas Postilwayte William Parker the elder William Gunson William Smythe Robert Smyth Thomas Dykson William Preston Thomas Mostroppe Thomas Hudson John

Mostreppe William Townson John Tawenson John Sharppe William Frere Thomas Sharppe the elder and Thomas Sharppe the younger William Ponsonby Robert Walker John Wilson John Troumlyton William Sharppe and Oliver Hodulston. To have and to hold for the use and benefit of Katherine now wife of aforesaid Roland Kyrkby for the term of her life as jointure and we have appointed our beloved in Christ John Worthyngton gentleman as our true attorney to give possession to the above In testimony of which we have set our seals on the 4th day of May in the 13th year of Henry VIII.

[5 seals and 6 signatures.]

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182. [1529.] This indenture witnesses to an agreement made between Thomas Scaresbrek of Scaresbrek esquire and Thomas Halsall of Halsall in consequence of disputes arising between them and their tenants concerning the use occupation and delivery of turfs in a moss both parties of their framing and good will and by the counsel of their wellwishers and loving friends have lovingly agreed that twelve of their own tenants and servants of towns of Halsall and Scaresbrek shall set meare's limit and stakes upon the moss to continue for ever That is to note Henry Carr Edward Gybunson Robert Blundell James Waryng John Hughenson and Denys Blundell of Scaresbrek Hugh Croston Rodger Prescote Henry Thomasson James Burrow William Botyll and Robert Prescote of Halsall who accordingly set the stakes for a division and Thomas Halsall and his tenants shall be free to delve and get turves on the south side of the said stakes and Thomas Scaresbrek and his tenants on the north side The following were present at the agreement and setting of the stakes James Scaresbrek of Bykyrstath esquire Robert Halsall gentleman Richard Grymshye gentleman Sir Henry Wolful priest Sir James Shirlacre priest George Molyneux John Mathew Thomas Whatton William Watkynson John Spenser Christopher Hayward John Balshaye Alban Hyll William Laythewaite Adam Hyndeley Richard Noley Norrys Kydd George Norres James Harker and others

Given on the 1st day of May in the 21st year of the reign of King Henry VIII and of our Lord God 1529.

Seal: on a shield between the letters T.H. a stork's head erased with a fish in the beak, or a serpent's head (the crest of Halsall.) [See No. 16, plate xxxiii, vol. xii (N.S.), of this Society's *Transactions.*] (*In English.*)

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183. [1529.] Let all present and future know that we Thomas Scaresbrek of Scaresbrek esquire and Richard Tempest knight

feoffees to the use of the said Thomas have granted to James Stanley esquire Edmund Trafford the elder esquire Ranulph Pole clerk Henry Knyghtly esquire James Scaresbrek the elder esquire Richard Aghton of Northmeols esquire and Edward Becansaw esquire all manors messuages lands etc. advowsons of churches and all other our inheritances in Scaresbrek Egergarth Hurdelton Snape and elsewhere within the county of Lancaster which I Richard Tempest together with Thomas Tempest knight Henry Halsall knight Thomas Hesketh esquire Hugh Aghton esquire Hugh Halsall Rector of the church at Halsall Richard Hesketh and Hugh Hesketh chaplains now dead had by gift and feoffment of Gilbert Scaresbrek esquire son and heir of James Scaresbrek of the annual value of 20 marks for the use of Frances daughter of Dorothy Bothe widow or of the other Dorothy her daughter now to be married to James Scaresbrek son and heir apparent of Thomas except the jointure of Frances or Dorothy except also the 20 marks which James Scaresbrek now holds except also the jointure of £26 to Margaret Scaresbrek widow except also 40 marks for Henry Scaresbrek also 13 for Richard Sallhouse To have and to hold the same for the trusts named excepting those things to be excepted And we the said Thomas and Richard have appointed our beloved in Christ William Plumptre clerk and William Watkynson agent and advocate to be our true and lawful attorneys in this matter In testimony of which we have affixed our seals.

Witnesses: Richard Bold knight, Humphrey Hurlton, and others.

Given on 25th June in the 20th year of Henry VIII.

Seals: (1) fragment showing part of arms, helm, mantling, and crest of Scarisbrick with legend in Old English letters: SIGILLUM HENRICI . . . [apparently the same seal as on Nos. 159 and 197]; (2) shield bearing arms of Tempest, a bend between six storm finches.

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184. [1529.] Let the present and future know that I Thomas Scaresbrek of Scaresbrek esquire in the County of Lancaster have granted to Humphrey Hurleton of Hurleton and his heirs all that piece of land in the territory of Hurleton called the Little Gran deerthe viz. from an old ditch to another as far as the stream called Hurleton Brook as was settled by arbitration on the 4th day of October in the 21st year of Henry VIII payment to be made of 1d. if asked for on the feast of the Nativity and if not paid on demand such payment and arrears thereof may be distraind for by Thomas and his heirs.

Given on the 20th day of October on the 21st year of Henry VIII.

185. [1530.] To all the children of our Holy Mother the Church to whom these letters may come Brother Thomas Norton knight and Christopher Burton of St. Lazarus at Yarum (now Yarm, co. York) in England brothers wish health and increase Because the more spiritual gifts are bestowed so much the more as we believe are eternal rewards obtained and as the Pontiffs of the holy Roman church out of the fulness of their power have granted to us that all who help us with their means or are associated to our brotherhood and also those who are our benefactors for each time shall have relaxed one year of penance and that they shall fully share in all the masses and all devotions offered to God in all our churches throughout the world and each year on Good Friday the chief priest has full power to absolve from all their sins unless they have committed such as the Apostolic See in no way remits and of commuting vows of abstinence and of any pilgrimage into other pious subsidies to our hospitals except those at Jerusalem and to the holy Apostles Peter and Paul and at the time of death granting full remission and if there is an interdict that ecclesiastical burial shall not be denied them unless they are bound by the chain of excommunication and by these present we wish our beloved in Christ (left blank for name) to share our privileges and indulgences.

Given at Burton in the year 1530.

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186. [1530.] This indenture made Oct. 4th in the 21st year of Henry VIII witnesseth that as variance had arisen between Thomas Scaresbrek of Scaresbrek in county of Lancaster esquire and Humfrey Hurleton of Hurleton gentleman the said parties have submitted themselves and are bound in the sum of £100 to abide by the award of us Robert Harvey Prior of Burscough and Henry ffaryngton esquire arbitrators on the part of Humfrey Hurleton and of Thomas Halsall esquire and Bartholomew Hesketh gentleman on the part of Thomas Scaresbrek and of Richard Hassall learned in the law by both parties chosen who should deliver judgment on this side the Nativity of Our Lord We the said arbitrators have ordered that the said parties should be of good amity and loving demeanour to each other that the little Grandeerth near Hurleton brook be delivered by Thomas to Humfrey and the said Humfrey shall pay 1d. when demanded at the Nativity of Our Lord God and in all other matters the said parties are to act quietly towards each other as in the times of James Scraesbrek grandfather and Gilbert Scaresbrek father to the said Thomas and of Robert Hurleton father to the said Humfrey.

Signed and sealed by Robert Prior of Burscough Henry

ffaryngton, Thomas Halsall, Bartholomew Hesketh and Richard Hassall.

Seals: (1) a man with a hawk on his right hand, a dog following, letter M above the dog; (2) a leopard's face with two p's interlaced with a cord above, all within an octagonal shield; (3) a pelican feeding her young; (4) wanting.

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187. [1530.] Let all know by these presents that Humphrey Hurlton gentleman is bound to Thomas Scarisbreke knight to pay £100 of lawful English money to him or to his sure attorney at the feast of St. Michael the Archangel (September 29) next coming Sealed on the 18th day of August in the 21st year of Henry VIII. [The rest in English.]

The condition of this bond is that Humphrey Hurlton stands to obey an award of Robert Hervey Prior of Burscogh and of Henry ffaryngton esquire arbitrators nominated by Humphrey Hurlton and of Thomas Hesketh esquire and Bartholomew Hesketh gentleman arbitrators nominated by Thomas Scaresbreck and of Richard Halsall gentleman learned in the law independently elected to judge award on all the causes demands etc. betwixt the two the said award to be made in writing and sealed and delivered to the said parties on this side of the feast of the Nativity of our Lord next to come After the date hereof this bond to be void.

Seal: letter R. Per me Humphrey Hurlton.

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188. [1535-1536.] Indenture made between Bartholomew Hesketh and William Golbourne of Asmall in county of Lancaster Witnesseth that I Bartholomew have granted to the said William and his heirs one acre of land in the Byrthraw in Asmall abutting north and south on land of the said William lying on the east and west half an acre on the western side and near a certain ditch belonging to William which I had by gift and feoffment of Edward Becansaw esquire in exchange for one croft of land of Williams inheritance in Asmall called the Jakkeyord and one rood of land abutting east and west on my land on east of croft lately the land of Becanshaw and also a certain croft called Jakkebutts on each side of said croft and towards a croft called Jakkyorde also moss waste and water of the inheritance of said William Byrthraw lately Becanshaw To be had and held 1½ acres of land in Byrthraw in Asmall in exchange for croft and moss waste of William of the chief lords for due services.

In testimony of which both append their seals on the 20th day of January in the 27th year of Henry VIII.

Seal: initials B. H. below a crown.

189. [1541.] Let the present and future know that I John Starky of Aughton in the county of Lancaster have granted to Thomas Ireland of Hutte esquire all that messuage of mine with appurtenances in Scaresbreke in the Okynhede in the tenure of Ewan Hill To have and to hold for himself and heirs of the chief lords by due services Furthermore know that I have appointed and ordained in my place the beloved in Christ Christoffer Ireland chaplain and Richard Bradshawe my true lawful attorneys to deliver over to the said Thomas the said messuage etc. with full and peaceful possession and seizin In testimony of which I have affixed my seal.

Given at Scaresbreke on the 20th day of June in the 32nd year of Henry VIII etc.

These being present when John Starky delivered possession and seizin to Richard Bradshawe attorney for Thomas Ireland of Hutte esquire: Gylbert Jacson, Robert Gordeche, Parys Blundell, Thomas Robynson.

Seal: initials J. S.

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190. [1541.] To all the faithful of Christ to whom these presents shall come John Starky of Aughton in co. of Lancaster gentleman wishes health Let them know that I John Starky for me and for my heirs have quitclaimed to Thomas Ireland of Hutte esquire a messuage or tenement in Scaresbrek now in the tenancy of Ewan Hill in Okenhed together with lands and all appurtenances &c and all concerning such so that neither I nor my heirs can lay any claim thereto or sell any portion thereof In testimony of which thing I have affixed my seal.

Given at Scaresbrek on the 24th day of June in the 32nd year of Henry VIII King of England France Defender of the Faith Lord of Ireland. By me John Starky.

Seal: initials J. S.

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191. [1562.] This is the final agreement made in the Queen's court of Lancaster on Monday the Feast of St. Bartholomew the Apostle (Aug. 24) in the 4th year of the reign of Elizabeth before Nicholas Powtrethand and John Walshe Sergeants at law Queen's Judges at Lancaster and the faithful there present between William Aspenwall plaintiff and Henry Starky gentleman who was illegally occupying one messuage two gardens one apple orchard ten acres of land three acres of meadow ten of pasture and one acre of wood in Okenhead in Scaresbrek whence the agreement was made between them in the said court and the said Henry acknowledged that the said tenements and their appurtenances were by right the property of the said William which he

has by gift of the aforesaid Henry Warranty to secure him possession and in recognition of this quitclaim and warranty the aforesaid William gave to Henry £40 sterling.

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192. [1571.] Let all know that I George Ireland of Hutte in county of Lancaster esquire have remitted for me and for my heirs and have quitclaimed to William Aspinwall of Ormiskyrk yeoman and to his heirs full and peaceful possession of and in one messuage or tenement with its appurtenances in Okenhed within the domain of Scarisbrek in Lancashire now or lately in the tenancy or occupation of Humphrey Hill and to all and each of the lands tenements meadows pasture and turbary wood and underwood rents reversions etc which Thomas Ireland esquire my father acquired by donation bargain and sale of John Starky gentleman.

Given on the last day of August in the 14th year of Elizabeth.

Seal: On a wreath a bird with a branch in its beak. (The crest of Columbers, afterwards of Ireland.)

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193. [1575.] Know all by these presents that we William ffaryngton esquire William Thomasson and William Thomson have remitted and quitclaimed to Hugh Holme yeoman all our estate title and claim which we had or could have in all the messuages tenements meadows fields pastures and right of inheritance situated lying and being in Scaresbreke which the aforesaid Hugh lately had by gift grant and sale from Edward Earl of Derby knight of the most noble order of the Garter In witness whereof the aforesaid set their seals.

Given on the 28th day of August in the 15th year of Elizabeth.

Sealed by William ffarington in the presence of Francis Babyngton Roger Talbot and Miles Asmall and by William Thomasson and William Thomson in the presence of Thomas Purdy Alexander Rigby and Thomas Daley,

1st seal (much broken), on a wreath a wyvern; 2nd seal a bird.

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194. [1577.] (In duplicate.) This indenture made September 22nd in the 19th year of Queen Elizabeth etc between Edward Scarisbreke and James Gorsuche Witnesseth that the said Edward Scarisbreke for diverse considerations and a sum of money grants unto the said James Gorsuche a sufficient way and passage containing in breadth at least 24 poles to from and between the house of James Gorsuche and a closure of land or meadow in Northmeles called Baldmonyhokes that is to

wit beginning at the high way near the said houses following it to Carre Cross in Snape thence to Snape Green along the lane between the high road and the said green over Snape to the house where dwells Gilbert Blundell then to Wood Moss near Longe Wik to the close called Baldmonyhokes to carry hay straw and timber in carts waynes and carriages to drive or ride on horseback and to fetch goods and chattels of said James Gorsuche for the space of 21 years the road in Long Wik to be within 12 roods of ground with leave to dig and delve for bettering the said road Signed and sealed by the above James Gorsuche and Edward Scarysbrick interchangeably in the presence of Henry Sutch and Nicholas Gorsuche.

Seal : a bird.

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195. [1578-1579.] Let the present and future know that I William of Aspinwall of Scarisbrek in the county of Lancaster have granted and delivered to James Gorsuch within Scarisbrek all and singular messuages lands tenements rents etc situated in or derived from Scarisbrek called Bartillshouse and especially in the farms conjointly or separately in the tenure of my villains Jane Gill relict of Humphrey Gill Thomas Richardson and Katherine Blundell with the exception of a certain piece of land 24 feet in breadth and 60 feet in length adjoining the King's highway that leads to Snape To have and to hold to the same James for his own use of the chief lords of the fee for due services and I have appointed my beloved in Christ Thomas Shawe and Eve Blacklathe to be my attorneys to convey the same to the said James Gorsuch.

[On back.] Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of Gylbert Towley clerk Marmaduke Nowley Ed. Holland James Stopford and Hy. Ritson In witness whereof I have set my seal to this paper on the 8th day of January in the 21st year of Elizabeth.

[On back.] Possession given in presence of Edward Scaresbrek James Gartoppe John Blundell Bryant Davies Richard Leigh and Thomas Richardson.

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196. [1578.] Let all know by these presents that I William Moorecroft of Myddelton in the county of Lancaster gentleman quitclaim for diverse good reasons and considerations to Christopher Anderton of Lostocke esquire in the same county for myself and for my heirs all my right and title which I have or can have of and in all that messuage with its appurtenances now in the occupation of James Sutche and George Sutche or either of them and in and to all those buildings orchards gardens

meadows pasture lands tenements and other inheritances in Scaresbrek all and each of which the said Christopher Anderton lately had and bought for himself and heirs by gift solely bargaining of me the aforesaid William as appears more fully by certain assurances in law In testimony of which I have affixed my seal on the 18th day of August in the 20th year of the reign of our Lady Elizabeth Queen of England France and Ireland.

Signed William Moorecroft.

[On back.] Sworn at Lancaster on Monday next after the Assumption of the B. Mary (Aug. 15) before Robert Mounson and Thomas Mead Judges of the Queen's Bench. [Roll the 4th.]

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197. [1597.] Know the present and future that I James Gorsuche gentleman have given to Andrew Norris of West Derbie Humphrey Golbourne of Scarisbrick Edmund Bispham of Billinge and John Blackledge of Lathom in the County of Lancaster gentlemen all those three closes or parcels of land with their appurtenances and the chief messuage in Gorsuch commonly called Rughmanheye the Greatmaudhey and the Littlemaudheye containing by estimate 12 acres be they more or less now in the tenancy of me James Gorsuche To be held from the chief lords of the fee by due services and subject to the agreement of indenture

Given on November 10th in the 39th year of Elizabeth 1597.

Witnesses: Miles Strange, Thomas Gasken, and Ellis Ambrose.

(In English.) The purport of this trust is to secure an annuity of 50 shillings to Frances Gorsuch daughter of the said James Gorsuch to be paid at Pentecost and Martinmas (November 11) for the whole term of her life and after her death to revert to James Gorsuch and his heirs.

Seal: on an ornamental shield three fleurs de lys between two cheveronels.

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198. [1604.] Indenture made between Edmund Bispham of Billinge gentleman and Robert Sutton of Scarisbrick husbandman by which for the consideration of £30 the said Edmund Bispham hands over to Sutton a yearly rent of £3 secured on lands called Bakers Intack Sinderhill Gladencroft and Ouled Marled Earth in Billinge during the life time of Frances Gorsuch daughter of James Gorsuch of Gorsuch to be paid at the Nativity of St. John the Baptist (June 24) and the Nativity of our Lord between 1 and 4 oclock in the south porch of the Parish church of Ormeskirk And if the said £3 be not paid within ten days of these dates then Robert Sutton can

distrain for the same and Edward Bispham binds his son James Bispham to the said indenture Sealed signed and delivered by Edmund Bispham in the presence of Thomas Scarysbrek Edward Gorsuch, John Whatton, Ellis Ambrose, and by James Bispham in the presence of Gabriell Longton, Ellis Ambrose, Edward Gorsuch.

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199. [1606.] To all the faithful in Christ to whom this present writing shall come James Gorsuch of Gorsuch gentleman wishes eternal health in the Lord Let them know that I the aforesaid James Gorsuch for good causes and reasonable considerations and for the support and help of my natural daughter Frances have given and granted to her an annuity or annual rent of 24 shillings of good and lawful money of England to be paid from and arising from one messuage or tenement situated and lying in Burscogh or Marton in County of Lancaster commonly called by the name of Muskarre or Carrmeadow now or lately in the occupation of Jane Moorcrcfte widow relict of Henry Moorcrofte late of Aghton gentleman deceased to be paid annually for the whole term of her natural life at the feast of St. Martin (November 11) Bishop in winter and Pentecost in equal proportions And if the said rent or any part be not paid then it shall be lawful for the said Frances to enter into the said messuage or distrain upon it for such rent and all arrears if such there be I James Gorsuch have placed the said Frances in full and peaceful possession thereof by the delivery of two shillings In testimony of which I have affixed my seal.

Given on the 24th day of June in the 4th year of James of England and 39th of Scotland in the year of our Lord 1606

(Signed) James Gorsuch.

(On back) Witnesses: Edmund Bispham, George Daudge, Henry Arnold, Nath. Oshdis Frances Gorsuch her writing.

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200. [1607.] This indenture witnesseth that whereas Edmund Bispham of Billinge co Lancaster gentleman by his indenture dated March 10th in the 2nd year of the reign of his present Majesty for considerations therein mentioned did give and confirm to Robert Sutton of Scarisbrick in the said county husbandman and his assigns one annuitie or yearly rent of £3 of lawful money of England yearlie to issue out of certain closes of land meadow and pasture with the appurtenances of the inheritance of the said Edmund in Billinge aforesaid commonly called by the several names of the Bakers Intack Sinder Hill and Gladden

croft and Ould Marled Earth To have and hold the said annuities to the said Robert etc immediately after the making of the said indenture during all the terms of the natural lyfe of Frances Gorsuch daughter of James Gorsuch in the same county gentleman at the feast of the Nativitie of Christ and St. John Baptist (June 24) by even portions etc And whereas James Bispham sonne and heir apparent of the said Edmund by his several deeds of confirmation and approbation of the said indenture dated March 4th in the 4th year of the said reign did approve the same as by indorsement on the said indenture Now the said Robert Sutton being thereof lawfullie possessed doth hereby for good consideration him thereunto specially moving give and sett over to Frances Gorsuch above named and her assigns as well the said Annuitie and the said indenture and all other writinge and assignments confirming the same whatsoever As also all the estate right title interest terms clayme which he the said Robert hath or rightfullie might have to the same To have and to hold the said annuitie and all other the said assigned premises during all the tearm of her naturall lyfe in as full ample large and beneficial manner as the said Robert can And the said Robert hath put the said Frances into full and peaceful possession of the said annuitie and premises by the delivery of two pence of lawfull money of England being now in the seale of this present deed infixed and inclosed In witness whereof the said Robert hath put his hand and seale and delivereth the same for his deed to the said Frances Gorsuch on the 4th day of April in the year of the reign of our Sovereign lord James by the grace of God of England France and Ireland the 5th of Scotland the 40th 1607 Sealed signed and executed for the deed of the said Robert delivered as is aforesaid in the presence of William Fazackerley Ellis Ambrose William Pemberton Signum manuale (Signmanual of) Robert Sutton.

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201. [1623.] Let all know that I James Hulme of Shevington yeoman am firmly bound to Richard Halsale of Scarisbrick gentleman in the sum of £600.

Given on the 20th day of November in the 20th year of the reign of James King of England France and Ireland and of Scotland the 56th.

Condition: James Hulme John Bymson and George Bordman of Orrell bind themselves to fulfil covenants of two indentures respecting one dwelling house and one cottage with land in Scaresbrek.

Fancy seal: a stork, much mutilated.

202. [1631.] Indenture made between Roger Bradshagh of Haigh and his son James on the one part Edward Scarisbrick of the 2nd part and Richard Lord Mullineux Viscount Maribourgh and Sir Gilbert Haughton knight and baronet of Haughton of the 3rd part that as the last two stand possessed of a capital messuage commonly called The New Hall with buildings lands pastures turbary &c by an Indenture of March 24th 1631 for the use and behoofe of Frances daughter of Roger Bradshagh and now wife of Edward Scarisbrick this witnesseth that the said Edward Scarisbrick binds himself (under a penalty of £1000) to expend £300 in rebuilding the said New Hall and the outbuildings as a jointure house for the said Frances before Nov. 2nd 1638.

Seals illegible.

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203. [1666-1667.] Indenture made Feb. 1st in the 19th year of Charles II between James Swift of Eccleston near Knowsley husbandman and Thomas Lyon of Eccleston clay potter Witnesses that whereas James and his children Ellen and James stand possessed of 4½ acres and ½ a rood of largest measure lately in the possession of Elizabeth Denton for their lives or for the surviver of them leased by the late Henry Eccleston esquire on May 30th, 1663 now in consideration of the sum of £100 paid by Thomas Lyon James Swift demises to him with the consent of William Gerrard of Brine and Henry Blundell of Ince Blundell dated Jan. 24th last the feoffees of Henry Eccleston all the land buildings &c for the term of their three lives (cannel and coal being reserved) and he also hands over the original indenture of lease.

Signed and executed on March 11th 1666 by the said James Swift and Thomas Lyon in the presence of William Rigbie Richard Bushell and Thomas Walton.

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204. [1681-1682.] This Indenture made Feb. 10th in the 34th year of Charles II 1681 between Thomas Eccleston esquire of Eccleston and Edward Finney joiner Witnesseth that on payment of £24 he the said Thomas grants to Edward Finney a lease of the land in Eccleston formerly in possession of Nicholas Finney now in that of Thomas Finney for the lives of Edward Finney Ann Finney his mother and her brother Henry or the longest liver of them for rent of £1 9s 4d at Pentecost and Nativity of our B. Lady in equal portions The lessee or an able man shall give 5 days shearing or 6 pence a day Covenants for

distraint and reservation of coal cannel and stone and appointment of John Yates as his attorney to give possession.

Executed by Thomas Eccleston and Edward Finney in presence of Richard Chorley, James Travis, John Yates junr. Witnesses to possession being given by John Yates junr., James Rigbi, John × Clarkson (his mark), James Travis.

Seal: arms of Eccleston, argent a cross sable, in the dexter chief a fleur-de-lis gules, helm, mantling, and crest a magpie.

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205. [1687.] Indenture made between Thomas Eccleston of Eccleston near Knowsley and John Wood of Sutton In consideration of £55 paid Thomas Eccleston grants to John Wood all that messuage lately in the possession of Mary Cross with lands liberties rights to dig for marl earth and clay (coal and cannel only excepted) during the natural lives of his daughters Margaret Sarah and Esther at a yearly rent of £1 2s 8d to be paid at Pentecost and the Nativity of the B. Virgin (September 8) together with one days ploughing one days leading turfs and one days loading dung with a proper team or in default a payment of 6 shillings and the said John Wood consents to keep for Thomas Eccleston a hound greyhound or spaniel under penalty of 20 shillings yearly and Thomas Eccleston appoints his servant Edmund Taylor as his attorney to give possession Executed by John Wood in the presence of William Roson and Henry Webster.

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206. [1701.] Let all know that we Mariam Mullineux spinster and Ann Mullineux widow of Eccleston near Knowsley bind ourselves to pay to Robert Sorsby of Croston farmer the sum of £30.

Given on Jan. 13th in the 13th year of William King of England etc. and in the year of the Lord 1701.

The condition of the obligation is such that if Mariam Mullineux and Ann Mulineux or either of them or their assigns pay or cause to be paid to Robert Sorsby or his certain attorney the full and just sum of £15 of current English money viz. £3 on Dec. 30th next 1702 and 4 more yearly payments or 5 in all then the said Robert Sorsby shall deliver up an assignment formerly to him made by Richard Mullineux deceased and also safely to deliver one lease also a standing cupboard and dishboard with other goods.

Signed sealed and delivered by Mary Mullineux (her mark), Ann Mullineux (her mark), in the presence of Mary Jarman (her mark), Richard Bellian.

207. [1705] Pleas at Lancaster on Thursday March 22nd in the 4th year of Queen Anne before John Blencow knight Justice of Queens Bench and Robert Price esquire baron Secretary of said Lady the Queen and Justice

Henry Tyrer and Richard Houghton gentlemen personally plead against Robert Scarisbrick knight 2 messuages 6 acres of land 4 of meadow 6 of pasture 4 of thicket together with common of pasture and easements of the said vill as his right and inheritance that the said Robert had no entrance thereto until after the unlawful seizure thereof by Hugh Hunt within the last 30 years The said Robert by his attorney William Shaw called Elizabeth Lewis Ellen Lund Thomas Hale and his wife Anne and John Balshaw to his help Deferred till Friday On that day Elizabeth Ellen Thomas Anne and John were represented by John Heys attorney and they called Henry Williams in defence During the same session Henry Williams though subpœned made default and did not appear in contempt of court Hence it was decided that Henry and Richard recover possession of the said holdings and they ask for a brief from the Viceroy of the Queen for full possession Granted by Richard Spencer esquire the Viceroy or Sheriff.

REPORT FOR 1897.

During the year 1897 eighteen members, including the Public Libraries of New York, Lancaster, and Southport, have joined the Society; while twenty have died, resigned, or had their names amoved from the books.

Among the deaths has been that of Sir Augustus Wollaston Franks, K.C.B., President of the Society of Antiquaries of London, and a life member of this Society, a man of vast learning and singular munificence, whose loss will be keenly felt by archæologists all over the world.

The heads of two old Lancashire houses, members of our Society, have passed away during the year: the Right Hon. William Philip, (4th) Earl of Sefton, K.G., Lord-Lieutenant of Lancashire, died at Sefton House, Belgrave Square, on the 27th of June; and Thomas Richard Crosse, of Shaw Hill, Chorley, for many years Colonel of the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment of Militia, and representative of one of the two principal burgher families resident in Liverpool during the 15th, 16th, and 17th centuries (the Mores being the other), died suddenly at Euston Station, November 27th, 1897, while on his way from Shaw Hill to his London home for the winter. He was a thorough "Lancashire lad," never so happy as when walking over his estate, or talking with his tenants and dependents, among whom he was deservedly popular. Though essentially an "out of doors" man, he was a great book buyer, and took a keen interest in everything connected with Lancashire history and archæology.

At the meetings of the Society during the year ten papers were read, several of which are printed in this volume.

In the autumn two Excursions were made: one to Winwick, under the able guidance of Mr. James Worsley, F.S.A., whose extensive local knowledge made him an excellent *cicerone*; the other to Birkenhead Priory, where Mr. Edward W. Cox pointed out and dilated upon the many objects of interest and plans of buildings recovered during the excavations carried out in the

Priory under his direction, at the cost of the Corporation of Birkenhead, acting on the suggestion of this Society.

Volume XLIX (New Series, Volume XIII) of the Society's *Transactions*, for the year 1897, was issued in December, 1898.

MEMBERS ELECTED, 1897.

Jan. 14.	Southport Free (Atkinson) Library.	Nov. 4.	E. Barnett.
,, 14.	W. R. Bellis.	,, 4.	Lancaster Free Public Library.
,, 28.	*Alfred Patchett.	,, 4.	*J. W. Ellis.
Mar. 25.	W. A. James.	,, 4.	*David A. Bingham.
,, 25.	Mrs. F. Knowles.	,, 4.	*W. Goodacre.
,, 25.	Rev. W. T. Bulpit	,, 18.	Bernard Smith.
,, 25.	New York Pub. Lib.	Dec. 2.	*Septimus Castle.
Apr. 8.	R. P. White.	,, 16.	Giles Shaw.
Nov. 4.	J. W. Wearing.	,, 16.	*Chas. Scarborough.

PAPERS READ, 1897.

Jan. 14. "Places in Lancashire destroyed by the Sea" Lt. Col. Fishwick, F.S.A.

,, 28. "Storeton Hall and its surroundings" - - E. W. Cox.

Feb. 25. "Ancient Channels of the Rivers Dee and Mersey" Charles Potter.

Mar. 11. "Regalia and Plate of the Preston Corporation" T. Stanley Ball.

,, 25. "The Fortified Sites of Lancashire" - Henry Taylor.

Apr. 8. "Lancashire and the Benedictines" Dom Gilbert Dolan, O.S.B.

Nov. 4. "Architectural History of Bebington Church" E. W. Cox.

,, 18. "Notes on Trade, Finance, and Shipping in Ancient England" - - - - Geo. Grazebrook, F.S.A.

Dec. 2. "Some account of the Liverpool Corporation Records" T. N. Morton.

,, 16. "Liverpool in the reign of Charles II" W. Fergusson Irvine.

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